Friday December 21 1979
No 60,506
Price fifteen pence

THE TIMES

Nicholas Ashford: Is apartheid dying? Page 12

Government to provide up to £300m for BL

British Leyland is to be granted a further £300m of state aid next year, with £133m to follow if the vehicle group's performance improves. The Government appears to have been persuaded by Sir Michael Edwardes that the company should be given a last chance.

Survival not certain, Sir Keith says

By Edward Townsend

The Government has agreed to provide British Leyland with up to £300m of additional public money next year to fund its new model and reorganization programmes. A further tranche of £133m will depend upon the vehicle group's level of success in the coming 12 months.

Announcing the decision in the Commons yesterday, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said that BL's situation was not encouraging—the company continued to be in a poor financial state and faced strong competitive pressures in the 1980s. "Only with very substantial improvements in BL's all-round performance will the company survive; success cannot by any means be guaranteed," he said.

Although there are no Government strings attached to the handouts, the board of BL has given warning that failure to meet the stringent requirements of its 1980 corporate plan will lead to further factory closures and widespread redundancies.

It was also revealed that BL's own attempts to revive its flagging finances next year will include the disposal of four of its major subsidiaries, which it is hoped will raise £250m. As well as seeking purchasers for Aveling Barford and Prestcold, BL is planning to sell the Alvis military vehicle and Coventry Climax industrial trucks operations in Coventry. Some smaller property assets may be sold, and negotiations are continuing on the possible sale of MG.

Sir Keith was finally persuaded to accede to BL's request after receiving a forthright letter from Sir Michael Edwardes, the company's chairman, earlier this month. Sir Michael said they faced considerable hazards "from within and without" and if the corporate plan was placed in jeopardy it would be abandoned.

Utmost determination and commitment

"In particular if there is a significant shortfall in cash flow, whether due to major disruptions through internal or external strikes or to delays in any of our programmes for investment and launch of new products, restructuring and redundancies, or for improving productivity and working practices, or to any other cause, internal or external, the board will abandon the plan."

Given the funds, he said, the board and management would pursue the plan "with the utmost determination and commitment."

The plan calls for public funds totalling £297m in 1980 with a further £133m between 1981 and 1983. The two sums represent the remaining £225m of the £1,000m proposed for BL under the Ryder plan, plus £205m for the restructuring programme.

In the event, the Government to provide £150m in new equity with "an additional facility", on which BL will be entitled to draw on evidence of need, up to a maximum of a further £150m. It was not clear yesterday whether the latter would be in the form of equity or grants. European Commission approval will be needed for granting the excess over the original £1,000m.

Sir Keith has also consented to BL's request that £150m of state loans provided in 1977 be converted into equity. This will cause the Government to lose interest on the remainder of the loans estimated at £22m, part of which would have gone to the National Enterprise Board, BL's parent, and part directly to the Treasury.

BL is also expected to contribute to its funding needs from its own internal resources, including disposal of assets "where this makes commercial sense".

BL expects cash flow on depreciation to be about £100m next year, and plans to borrow "tens of millions" of pounds from the banks. Sir Keith said at a press conference that City borrowings would continue to be guaranteed by the Government. Total capital expenditure for BL as a whole is forecast at £331m.

Remaining under wing of enterprise board

Sir Keith said that the new NEB and its chairman, Sir Arthur Knight, had not had time to consider the BL plan, but he confirmed that BL would remain under the board's wing. With a "new set of faces" at the NEB, the BL board might reconsider its wish to follow Rolls-Royce and become directly responsible to Whitehall.

Sir Keith dismissed suggestions that he had been less tough with BL than with the British Steel Corporation. He said that BSC had £3,500m from the taxpayer in the last four years and Britain now had the best steel plants in Europe. BL had not yet had the full £1,000m originally proposed and the company was being closely monitored. Success, he said, was now up to the management and workforce. Whether BL received the extra £133m at the end of next year depended upon it staying on course.

Details of the BL plan, contained in an NEB report to Sir Keith this month, showed that the company had no chance of achieving its financial duty of a 10 per cent return on assets before 1982, but would then be on course to achieve 15 per cent in the long term.

Reaction to the plan from management and unions was positive. Sir Michael Edwardes welcomed the Government's move as "the last chance" for BL. He appealed to the workforce to make 1980 a year free of disputes.

He added: "We cannot live on Government money for ever. We are still on a knife-edge."

Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: "I am pleased that the Government has made this decision to inject a further tranche of money into British Leyland. We still believe that a healthy car industry can regenerate the country's economy."

He added that union leaders were not "enamoured" with the clause in Sir Michael's letter to Sir Keith saying that the plan could be abandoned in the event of a significant cash shortfall because of internal or external disputes.

BL cuts link, page 2
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One more chance, page 17

Judge hopes jury 'will not regret acquittals'

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

The jury which acquitted four anarchists of conspiracy was told by the judge yesterday: "I pray to God none of you will ever have occasion to regret it" as he jailed a fifth defendant for nine years. Their decision had been "a remarkable result in the face of the evidence".

On Wednesday the jury, at the Central Criminal Court, acquitted the four of various charges involving conspiracy to rob, explosives, and firearms. Afterwards Judge Alan King-Hamilton ordered the jury to attend court yesterday and hear the evidence against Stewart Carr who pleaded guilty to conspiracy to rob.

They listened for nearly three hours as Mr Michael Worsley, prosecuting, read extracts from two hundred pages of interviews between Mr Carr and the police after his arrest.

The interviews catalogued a series of robberies for money and firearms, the collection of intelligence for acts of terrorism, and discussions on bombings, assassinations and kidnappings which implicated the four who had been freed.

When Mr Carr, aged 29, rose to be sentenced Judge King-Hamilton told him: "I expect you were as surprised by the verdicts as were the defendants themselves and, indeed, everyone else in court who listened to or knew what the evidence was.

"I cannot recall ever, in a very long career in this profession, having heard gasps of astonishment, some even coming from counsels' benches, when some of the verdicts were announced."

Having been acquitted, the defendants were entitled to hold themselves out as innocent of the charges "no matter how overwhelming some people may have thought the prosecution evidence was. I am bound to repeat, as I said yesterday, it was a remarkable result in the face of the evidence."

As Mr Carr stood motionless, arms crossed, Judge King-Hamilton told him the National Council for Civil Liberties had issued a statement following his comments to the jury, that verdicts were a matter for juries and not judges.

The judge said: "Judges have an inherent right to make comments in their own courts

Continued on page 4, col 5

Ayatollah Khalkhali says he has ordered gunmen to pursue and 'execute' the Shah

Iran's hanging-judge names 14 exiles to be put to death

From Robert Fisk
Qom, Dec 20

Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali was sitting on the floor of his guest-room surrounded by Revolutionary Guards who had been wounded in Kurdistan. One of them had taken off his sock to show him his swollen left foot where a bullet had cut the nerve. Another exercised an artificial hand, creaking and clicking his steel fingers as the Ayatollah expressed his sympathy.

It was hot in the little room and the bespectacled divine was wearing only pyjamas and a white apron. "You are from *The Times* of London?", he asked, glancing in my direction. "Well, look at these men." He paused and then began to giggle in a high-pitched voice: "The rebels did this. I will pull them out by the roots—I will kill all of them."

As Chief Justice of Iran's Islamic courts, Ayatollah Khalkhali is in a position to do just that. He has personally ordered the execution of more than 200 former members of the Shah's regime, including Amir Abbas Hoveida, the longest-serving prime minister in the imperial Government. His supporters call him "the wrath of God" and his critics—who are legion—uncharitably claim that he not only enjoys his work but has maintained a lifelong habit of strangling cats.

Ayatollah Khalkhali does not look the part. He is small man with a pointed beard and a kindly smile which he exhibits when making inappropriate jokes. Asked by a reporter two weeks ago how he felt now that the number of executions in Iran was decreasing, he replied with a chuckle: "I feel hungry." It would be a serious mistake, however, to imagine that Iran's most feared judge does not take his vocation seriously.

"If an Islamic judge realizes that someone is guilty of corruption on earth or of waging war against God", he said, "the judge will condemn the accused, even if he claims he is innocent. The most important thing in Islamic justice is the wisdom of the judge. . . . Even if a man denies the charges against him, it means nothing if the judge decides otherwise."

Ayatollah Khalkhali has no time for reporters who ask why so many Iranians were executed after the revolution. "The people who were executed were the principal retainers of the previous hated regime", he said. "They had exploited this nation. They had been responsible for killings, tortures and unlawful imprisonment. I am surprised that you ask such questions."

Ayatollah Khalkhali displays equally little patience when asked if his much-publicized determination to engineer the assassination of the ex-Shah accords with the principles of Islamic justice. "We know that America will not return the Shah," he said. "So we have to kill him—there is no other choice. If it was possible to bring him here and try him, we would kill him afterwards.

"But since we cannot try him—and since we are sure that he should be executed—we will kill him anyway. No one tried Mussolini. And who tried the Frenchmen who were executed for collaborating with Hitler's soldiers in the Second World War?"

Ayatollah Khalkhali understands the importance of judicial precedent, and he smiles when he draws parallels with European history.

He walks without shoes or socks in his home and massages his feet with his hands

Continued on page 6, col 6

'Sub-human killers' condemned by Prince

By Trevor Fishlock

In a poignant tribute to the late Lord Mountbatten of Burma yesterday, the Prince of Wales echoed British anger, sadness and bewilderment over the Irish question.

"What on earth was the point of such mindless cruelty?" he asked. "He was a man who helped defeat the scourge of tyranny and oppression. Perhaps the manner of his passing will awaken us to civilized democracy's vulnerability to the kind of sub-human extremism that blows up people when it feels like it."

It was bitter irony, he said, that a man who had been torpedoed, mined and bombed in the last war, who had helped defeat tyranny in South-east Asia, who had passionate concern for the individual, who had ensured that India should get independence, should be mercilessly blown to bits "through the agency of some of the most cowardly minds imaginable".

Lord Mountbatten had worked hard for peace and international understanding. But "they finally succeeded in murdering a man desperately trying to sow the seeds of peace for future generations".

The Prince paid heartfelt and moving tribute to his great-uncle at a memorial service in St Paul's Cathedral. Wearing the uniform of Commander, Royal Navy, and standing in the spotlit pulpit beneath the great dome, he spoke to more than 2,000 people.

He talked of Lord Mountbatten's qualities—his courage, wit and enthusiasm—and added simply: "I adored him. So many of us will miss him dreadfully."

He said that several years ago Lord Mountbatten had been planning arrangements for his funeral service and had asked him to make an address at it. "Little did I think under what circumstances I would be making the address. My great uncle always seemed to me reassuringly indestructible and full of energy and enthusiasm, even at the age of nearly 80."

The Prince said he supposed there was a sense in which Lord Mountbatten had died a hero's death at sea. But with him died Doreen, Lady Brabourne, mother of his son-in-law: Nicholas Knatchbull, his grandson; and Paul Maxwell, the local boy who looked after the fishing boat Shadow V.

"Today we remember them, two elderly people and two on the threshold of their lives. The fact that two of his family died with him would have appalled Lord Mountbatten. He was, above all, a family man, a devoted husband, enlightened father, wonderful grandfather and a very special great uncle. He was a man for whom blood was thicker than water. He was the centre of the family, a patriarchal figure."

The memorial service, for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen Lady Brabourne and Nicholas Knatchbull, was conducted by the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Gerald Ellison.

Lord Brabourne and Lady Mountbatten, Lord Mountbatten's daughter, who survived the explosion, were present.

Memorial service, page 14

Lord Brabourne and Lady Mountbatten of Burma, who were seriously injured by the terrorist bomb blast which killed Lady Mountbatten's father, Lord Mountbatten of Burma, leaving after his memorial service in St Paul's Cathedral yesterday. They were accompanied by their sons (from left) Philip, Lord Romsey and Timothy.

Right to buy homes for five million

By John Young
and Christopher Warman

The Government promises to give five million council and new town tenants the right to buy their home in proposals included in the Housing Bill, published yesterday.

The Bill also offers a tenants' charter giving increased protection, measures to encourage letting in the private sector, and a better improvement grant system.

"This Bill lays the foundations for one of the most important social revolutions of this century", Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

Introducing the Bill, he said that it had the highest priority for the Government. It contained some of the most important promises on which the Government was elected, and there was no legislation which could do more for people in the community.

Discounts on sales to tenants will be 33 per cent for one of three years' standing, increasing to 50 per cent for a tenancy of 20 years. The purchaser will have the right to a 100 per cent mortgage from the local authority, and a deposit of £100 will enable a purchaser to buy within two years at the same price if his mortgage entitlement is insufficient to buy immediately.

To counter the possibility that a local authority might delay or impede a sale, Mr Heseltine will have the right to intervene and to complete the sale

These are all designed to help "redress" the balance for tenants who after many years have nothing, while the owner occupier makes a "windfall tax-free profit", Mr Heseltine said.

The Labour Party pledged opposition to the Bill. "We shall fight it very hard in the House of Commons and in the country," Mr Roy Hattersley, environment spokesman, said.

He complained that the power of the Secretary of State to intervene meant that "Mr Heseltine can if he wishes do anything he wants," and presented a constitutional danger to the country. He also disputed the figures in the Bill which showed the profit made from council house sales.

Mr Hattersley said that on the most reasonable estimate the sale of each house would cost the community £5,000, meaning a loss of £50m for every 10,000 houses sold.

The Conservative-controlled Association of District Councils, which represents councils managing more than three million council homes, gave the Bill qualified support.

Mr John Morgan, chairman of the housing committee, said: "We have always supported council house sales, but we wish to see adequate safeguards to meet continuing demands for rented accommodation in rural areas, and protection for the elderly".

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Leading article, page 13

Petrol price rise on way as talks fail

From Nicholas Hirst
Caracas, Dec 20

The conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) here finally broke up in confusion after failing to agree on a unified price structure for oil for 1980.

This means the disorder which has ruled the international oil markets for the past nine months as a result of Iran's cutbacks in production will continue. Opec members will be free to charge what they like for their oil.

Not all Opec countries have decided their prices for next year. But from the eight of the 13 countries which had, it looked as though there would be a split of $6 between the lowest, at $24 a barrel, and the highest at $30.

The average official price is estimated to have gone up from $21 to $26, which would increase the price of a gallon of four star petrol by around 8p. Once the tanker drivers settlement is taken into account, a 10p increase is easily possible.

Saudi Arabia raised its price a week ago by $6 a barrel to $24 in an attempt to bring unity back to Opec pricing and the international oil market. The rise was backdated to November

The attempt at unity failed.

Pressure on BP, page 15

Editor charged on Giscard papers

From Ian Murray
Paris, Dec 20

M. Roger Fressoz, the director, and M. Claude Angeli, the editor, of *Le Canard Enchaîné*, the satirical weekly newspaper, were charged today with receiving stolen official documents. The charges, which relate to the tax forms of President Giscard d'Estaing and M. Marcel Dassault, the Gaullist industrialist, appear to have been preferred on the initiative of the Government and not of an examining magistrate.

The newspaper published facsimiles of the tax return of the President in June and of M. Dassault in September. In 1972 it published the returns of M. Jacques Chaban-Delmas, the then Prime Minister, and because of the resulting scandal he is believed to have lost his chance of winning the 1974 presidential election.

In October, M. Dominique Marie, a young holiday relief worker at the tax receiving office computer centre for Paris, was arrested by police in the course of a routine check on motorists. In his pocket was a list of politicians' names, among them M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister and M. Robert Boulin, the Minister of Labour who committed suicide two months ago.

The police searched M. Marie's home where they found photocopies of the tax returns of the President, M. Dassault and Baron Edouard Empain, the Franco-Belgian industrialist. M. Marie was subsequently charged with theft and breach of professional secrets.

Police believed that the names in his pocket were a "shopping list". They searched the home of a freelance journalist at the law courts and took in the offices of the Judicial Press Association. A month ago, a police raid was made on the offices of the *Canard* when, again typewriters were examined for fingerprints.

Warning on civil war in Rhodesia

General Peter Walls, the Rhodesian military commander, gave a warning last night that a Patriotic Front victory in the independence general election would result in "immediate civil war".

He added: "Not only would they not bring peace, but they would bring a bloody and disastrous civil war to the country". General Walls had just arrived in London for today's signing of the ceasefire agreement

General Walls, who described the Patriotic Front guerrillas as "agents of Soviet imperialism", said he did not care who won the election "as long as it is a democratic, moderate form of government that continues to rule my country".

Mrs Thatcher will attend the signing. Before the ceremony she will receive Bishop Muzorewa and Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, the guerrilla leaders.

British airlift: The airlift of British troops to Rhodesia is due to start from RAF Lyneham and RAF Brize Norton this afternoon within hours of the ceasefire agreement being signed. The operation will last five days (Henry Stanhope writes).

About 850 of the 1,000 troops will be involved in monitoring the ceasefire, but about 200 of these may be withdrawn when the disengagement phase of the operation has been completed.

About 200,000 pounds of freight and 140 Land-Rovers will be carried mainly by 13 RAF Hercules aircraft which will fly a total of 21 sorties.

The 12 light and medium helicopters, mainly Gazelles of the Army Air Corps and RAF Pumas, will be taken by two giant Galaxies and 10 Starlifters of the United States Air Force. These have been hired because the RAF does not have aircraft large enough to take helicopters without dismantling them.

Advance party arrives, page 6

Decision later on breath test reforms

The Government has deferred making a decision on giving the police wider powers to give breath tests to motorists suspected of drinking. A consultative document leaves the matter open for further discussion. It says that the government would be opposed to indiscriminate testing, and it questions whether the present restrictions on the powers of the police to test could be removed without leading to such a result Page 5

Dutch Cabinet survives vote

The Dutch coalition Government survived a parliamentary challenge over the degree of its commitment to Nato's decision to deploy modernized nuclear missiles in Western Europe. A motion of no confidence tabled by the opposition was rejected by 81 to 66 votes after a 16-hour debate Page 6

Pope welcomes talks

A hint about matters discussed at the secret consistory of cardinals in Rome is given by Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, in an ITN interview to be shown on Sunday. He says the Pope is willing to have frank discussions inside the church on controversial issues Page 2

IRA missile concern

The Irish Government's decision to equip its army with ground-to-air missiles may have been inspired by the fear that the IRA has learnt to use modern weapons. In Northern Ireland there is concern that terrorists will acquire the Russian Sam 7 anti-aircraft missile Page 4

Seven to die in Korea

A court martial in South Korea sentenced seven men to death for the murder at a dinner of President Park Chung Hee Page 7

Auden papers dispute

Hearings of a case concerning the ownership of a batch of W. H. Auden poetry manuscripts and notebooks have ended in New York. The dispute, between the New York Public Library and the father of Auden's dead lover, involves issues of tax concessions and long-term values of Auden royalties. The hearings have been appropriately spiced with literary allusions. The poetry business, one lawyer remarked, is unpredictable for income Page 7

Water pay snag: Union leaders reject 13% offer and threaten industrial action 2

Commons television: MPs to have another chance of deciding whether to admit cameras 2

Cross-Channel shopping: Thousands of Britons plan weekend invasion of French ports to collect last-minute Christmas bargains 4

Prague: British QC among five people arrested by Czechoslovak police 7

HOME NEWS

Last-ditch talks today in effort to avert new year steel strike

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Last-ditch talks aimed at averting the threatened national steel strike are to take place this morning between the British Steel Corporation and leaders of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation against a background of growing union militancy.

Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the confederation, said last night: "The corporation say they are going to be pretty rough. They cannot be any rougher than we are being. Unless there is money on the table there is no possibiilty of changing the course we are embarking upon."

The union is calling out on strike from January 2 its 90,000 members employed by British Steel, and preparations for the stoppage are building up.

Picket badges have been printed and distributed, and the confederation has started up its own propaganda machine to counter British Steel's campaign to persuade workers to accept the offer of 2 per cent plus up to 10 per cent more at plant level for demanning, higher productivity, and improved financial performance.

Mr Sirs said the dispute could still be called off by his executive today, but only if the corporation made an offer the union regarded as a serious opening of negotiations on the claim for wage rises at least equal to the 17½ per cent rate of inflation.

The TUC steel committee last night reinforced that message in talks with Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of British Steel, and his chief executives.

Steel union leaders and Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC have told the corporation that if the offer is not increased to a level considered by the confederation to be sufficient for it to rescind its strike call, the steelworkers will be supported by all the other unions in the industry and many outside.

Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman of British Leyland, has appealed in a telegram to Mr Sirs for a year of uninterrupted steel supplies. A national strike would be "simply horrifying", he said. It would put the future of 160,000 trade unionists working for the British car firm in the balance.

Mr Sirs said he was impressed by the telegram, but he held out no hope of a dispensation for BL from the impact of a nationwide stoppage.

The steelworkers' leaders have asked continental metal unions to cut off steel imports into the United Kingdom and Mr Sirs has also had meetings with Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, about the impending shutdown.

He said the attitude of his executive was hardening. A member who abstained during the December 7 decision to call the strike had now changed his mind, making the executive view unanimous.

One possible negotiating move by the corporation would be to make the productivity increases more attractive by paying them in advance of improvements in plant performance. That shift in itself would not solve the dispute, but it might be sufficient for the strike to be called off.

Blacking imports: South Wales miners' leaders yesterday decided to press ahead with moves to get coal imports blacked (the Press Association reports).

They will appeal to dockers to black a ship carrying 20,000 tonnes of American coal, destined for Llanwern steel works today or tomorrow.

Private sector worries, page 15

Lady Villiers: Took bomb into the garden.

Bomb sent to steel chairman

A letter bomb was delivered yesterday to the home of Sir Charles Villiers, chairman of the British Steel Corporation. Sir Charles was not at his home, Blacknest House, Ascot, Berks.

It was the sixth bomb found this week. Four of them were delivered to leading businessmen and civil servants in what police believe to be an IRA Christmas bombing campaign.

The package containing the bomb had a Belgian postmark, as did four of the other five bomb packages.

A friend, Mrs Gosie Crowley, took it from the postman at 8 am and said jokingly: "Don't give us any bombs, will you." She carried the package into the dining room, where Lady Villiers, her daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren were starting breakfast.

Lady Villiers said that she became suspicious when she saw the package, noticed the postmark and could not recognize the handwriting. She took it into the garden and called the police. The device was defused by Scotland Yard's bomb squad.

No comfort or joy as party leaders shout each other down

Lip service to Christmas spirit in the Commons

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

The spirit of Christmas descended upon the House of Commons yesterday. Every now and then it broke out between oratorical explosion, only to be promptly smothered by a burst of unseasonal ill will.

Indeed, with only 24 hours remaining before the recess, Mrs Thatcher and Mr Callaghan chose the closing moment of question time for a dispute of almost nuclear proportions over matters of barely infinitesimal significance.

At one moment it looked as though we were going to get through question time peacefully enough, that the two leaders would convey their traditional greetings to the Speaker and that everyone would dash off happily to sink their teeth into turkey and Christmas pudding without any further recriminations. Then suddenly, as though propelled into action by an electronic button, up popped the Leader of the Opposition and descended upon Mrs Thatcher like Ayatollah Khomeini.

Mrs Thatcher at first looked a little startled, but then launched herself across the dispatch box, verbally, of course, with the impetus of a polaris missile. All thoughts of Christmas fled before this onslaught. The Speaker moved nervously to the edge of his chair and the hordes on either side of the House cleared their throats and bellowed cheerfully.

It was all rather like some end-of-term celebration at a particularly under-privileged school in the depths of dockland.

As the hubbub mounted, the most amazing revelation was the degree to which the Prime Minister was able to raise her voice so as to be heard above the general uproar. It was possible to make out, somewhat vaguely, that the two protagonists were yelling at each other about their past records, or at least the past records of their respective governments — not that it mattered in the least to anyone outside the close circle of their respective supporters.

No one, however, could have believed before yesterday that such powerful lungs existed in such an outwardly delicate prime ministerial frame. Without even stopping for breath, Mrs Thatcher yelled that Mr Callaghan started off with 600,000 unemployed and tripled that figure and "may I, Mr Speaker, wish you glad tidings of comfort and joy".

The Speaker looked relieved at that sign of an amnesty and pointed out that he was entitled to the same greeting from both sides and that MPs seemed to be getting rather excited.

"I know we are breaking up tomorrow, but we must complete our business first", the Speaker told the unruly lads and lasses who seemed to be on the verge of total insurrection. Mr Callaghan promptly offered his good tidings to the Speaker and then, in a rather Scrooge-like aside, added "which is much more than the British people can expect from the Conservative Party".

Indeed, the Commons yesterday closely resembled one of those electronic war games. You press a button labelled "missile" and bang, up jumps Mr Robert Cryer shouting something about radioactive cinder heat.

Another button marked "British Leyland" brings half the Conservative Party to its feet yelling that the company should be sold to the highest bidder.

As the Speaker remarked, the Christmas spirit in the Commons seemed to be breaking out somewhat patchily.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Archbishop sorry Rome talks were a secret

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, has given the first glimpse of some of the matters discussed at the recent secret consistory of cardinals in Rome, saying that Pope John Paul II was willing to have frank discussions inside the Roman Catholic Church on controversial issues.

He was recording an ITN interview to be shown on Sunday.

Yesterday, in an interview on Thames Television, the next Archbishop of Canterbury, the Right Rev Robert Runcie, Bishop of St Albans, expressed his great admiration for the Pope but added that there were already indications of some points on which they would disagree. The Pope was a wonderful personality, a wonderful Christian, who seemed to put his arms round the world.

"He somehow meets the inarticulate searching of so many people for something deeper in life than the kind of shallow materialism that often surrounds us", he said.

Those almost simultaneous television comments on Pope John Paul II from two leading English churchmen have come at a time of growing controversy inside both the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church over the disciplinary measures being taken by the Vatican against Professor Hans Küng and Professor Edward Schillebeeckx, two well known Roman Catholic theologians.

Cardinal Hume said in his interview, the text of which became available yesterday, that the Pope was willing to allow dialogue to continue on such issues as the ordination of women. The interviewer, Mr Jon Snow, had asked about some of the critical reaction inside the American Roman Catholic community to the Pope's conservative news on certain matters.

The Pope had to remain conservative to preserve the tradition of the church, he said. But the recent meeting of cardinals in Rome had indicated the Pope's attitude to controversy.

"The great example is that he was prepared to bring all the cardinals to Rome to discuss these issues frankly", he added. "I think it is very sad that we have to be so secretive about this, because I think people would be enormously encouraged if they knew these things were being discussed by the cardinals."

German bishops, page 6

BL to cut link with employers' federation

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

British Leyland dealt a moral and financial blow to the Engineering Employers' Federation yesterday by giving notice that it intended to withdraw from the industry's national negotiating machinery.

BL told union leaders that it no longer wished to be covered by the federation's national bargaining with the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions provided that a suitable joint body could be established within the company itself.

The move was disclosed after the federation had embarked on an internal inquiry into its bargaining arrangements in the wake of a damaging series of pay strikes in the industry earlier this year.

The company, which pays an annual subscription of about £300,000 to the federation and its regional associations, is easily its largest member.

BL has begun discussions with the federation aimed at some form of associate membership which would allow it to maintain what Mr Pat Lowry, its director of personnel, described as a "looser link".

Mr Lowry emphasized that internal discussions about leaving the federation had begun between six and nine months ago, well before the engineering dispute. He added: "It would be idle to pretend otherwise than that the effects of the dispute have not had an impact on our thinking." Other factors had however influenced the company's decision.

Mr Anthony Frosham, federation director, went out of his way yesterday to emphasize the positive effect that the decision would have on the industry. Welcoming the possibility of an agreement between the CSEU and BL on machinery to meet "the special conditions" he added: "We are in business to assist our member companies and will help this development in any way we can. We are of course pleased that BL wishes to stay in the federation."

The federation said yesterday that Mr Lowry had indicated that the company continued to value its part in the federation debate on industrial relations issues, the use of federation analysis and intelligence and the use of services provided by the federation. These are thought to include representation at some tribunals.

About a third of the company's subscription goes to the federation's head office and the rest to local associations. The federation accepts privately that any new arrangement reached will mean a reduction in subscription.

At present Leyland Cars negotiates within the company in accordance with the two-tier bargaining system between the CSEU and the EEF, which lays down that minimum rates, hours and conditions are determined nationally.

Business feature, page 17

13% offer is rejected by water men

By Our Labour Staff

A threat of industrial action by 33,000 water and sewerage workers loomed last night after union leaders rejected a 13 per cent pay offer.

The offer will now go to union delegate conferences in the new year, but a union official said: "I think it is fairly clear that if the employers do not improve their offer, then we are talking about trouble in the industry."

The unions have asked for a 50 per cent wage rise, which included an increase in basic rates, improved holidays and a reduction in the working week from 40 to 35 hours.

An internal comparability study has shown that water workers are paid about £10 a week less than employees in the gas and electricity industries.

Any industrial action by water workers could quickly disrupt water and sewerage services, creating potential health hazards.

The National Water Council, the employers' body, said last night that because of its financial position it was unable to offer more than 13 per cent.

The offer, which would add £18m to the manual workers' wage bill, would increase basic rates for a 40-hour week to between £61 and nearly £67, compared with the present £54.60 and nearly £60. The employers have also offered an extra two days' holiday.

MPs to vote again on TV in House

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

MPs are to have another opportunity to decide whether television cameras should be allowed in the House of Commons and its committees for regular broadcasting of the proceedings.

So far this proposal has been resisted. But with the influx of 132 new members at the last general election, the balance of opinion may have swung in favour.

The vote will come on January 30, when Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Grimsby, who was a television personality before he entered Parliament in April, 1977, will ask leave to introduce a private member's Bill to authorize the entry of cameras.

It is assumed that when television cameras are admitted provision will also be made in one of the galleries for press cameramen, as in other legislatures.

Referring to earlier Commons votes against television, Mr Mitchell said last night: "I am hoping that the new intake of MPs will be more sensible, but a lot depends on the reactions there have been to radio broadcasts from the House.

"These reactions have concentrated on the kind of jungle noises that we hear at Prime Minister's question time.

£3m Civil Service cuts found in a month

By David Felton

A new group has been set up within the Civil Service Department lead by the recently appointed under-secretary to cut manpower and waste.

The Functions and Programmes Group, under Mr Sandy Russell, has already identified savings amounting to between £2m and £3m during the month it has been operating. The group's work is regarded as a long-term exercise and may last for the life of the present Parliament.

Mr Paul Channon, Minister responsible for day-to-day administration of the Civil Service while Lord Soames is in Rhodesia, said last night: "I want to make a shift of emphasis in the Civil Service Department to make efficiency in the Civil Service and value for money its first priority".

He said it had been decided to make the department the spine of the Civil Service and it was crucial to the Government that as much effort as possible was put into cutting unnecessary jobs and eliminating waste in government departments.

Mr Russell explained that the new group, which employs about seventy people drawn from various parts of the department, was split into three divisions.

One section was responsible for following up recommendations made by Sir Derek Rayner, joint managing director of Marks and Spencer, who was brought into Whitehall by the Prime Minister to look at short-term savings in government expenditure.

The second division is responsible for eliminating waste by cutting goods and services which will not harm the central objectives or workings of any department. The third division comprises the staff inspectorate

Support for party split is a betrayal, Mr Callaghan says

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, in an end-of-term speech to the Parliamentary Labour Party last night had some stern words for those in the party who might be thinking of breaking away.

Since the party's left wing seems to be fairly content with the way things are shaping, his admonition was taken to refer to those on the right who might be seduced by the arguments of people like Mr Roy Jenkins, the former Home Secretary and now President of the EEC Commission, in favour of the formation of a new middle-of-the-road Social Democratic party.

Mr Callaghan, looking back to the unsettled state of the party after the election defeat, said that the parliamentary party had now emerged as a coherent force in the Commons.

There would be big issues facing the country next year. It was already clear that the electoral climate had changed; disillusionment with the Conservatives was widespread.

He said: "I would not countenance any idea that the party can be split off in one direction or the other, and all those people who write or think about such things are betraying our people".

The main concern of the country was the continuing threat of deindustrialization with the consequent threat of higher unemployment. People could sense that the country was ceasing to be a heavy industrial nation and conditions were beginning to resemble those that prevailed in the 1930s.

NUJ leaders call for sanctions in pay dispute

By Our Labour Staff

Leaders of provincial members of the National Union of Journalists decided yesterday to recommend continued rejection of a final pay offer and to operate a policy of industrial sanctions from the new year.

The call will be considered at a meeting of chapel (office branch) representatives on December 29. Any decision will then be passed back to meetings of members which will report back to the union's headquarters by December 31.

The decision, taken by the union's Industrial Council for provincial newspapers, came after abortive talks with the Newspaper Society on Wednesday, when the management failed to improve a pay offer costed by the union at 14.5 per cent.

If accepted, the offer, which was made in response to a 30 per cent claim by the union, would be implemented from January 1.

Average earnings for qualified journalists including editorial executives other than editors, is £106.13 and for junior journalists £60.13 a week.

Leave to appeal: The National Union of Journalists was yesterday given leave to appeal to the House of Lords against a ruling that the seven-week strike of provincial journalists last winter was against union rules because members were not balloted.

Three Law Lords said that the union could challenge the Court of Appeal decision last July when Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said that hundreds of journalists expelled from the union or disciplined for disobeying the strike order should be restored to full membership pending a full hearing of the dispute

Three people die in black ice road accidents

Accidents on black ice caused three deaths yesterday in Essex and Suffolk. Several other people were injured.

A couple died when their car was crushed by an articulated lorry on the A12 at Kelvedon, Essex, and a driver was killed when his car was in collision with a lorry at Latchingdon, also in Essex.

A boy aged 13 was injured critically when a lorry driven by his father was in collision with a car at Larinford Hill, near Ipswich.

Snow and ice caused difficulties in North Yorkshire. A bus carrying brewery workers to Tadcaster overturned near Sherburn in Elmet, but no one was seriously injured.

Police closed 10 miles of the M62 between Howden and North Cave, north Humberside, for two hours after black ice caused several accidents.

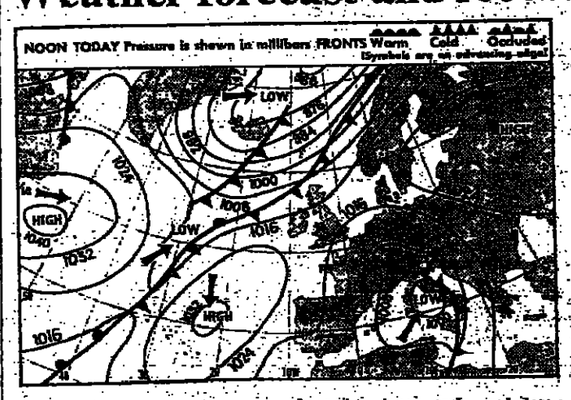
A blizzard reduced visibility to about 35 yards in the Cambridge area. West Kent also had patches of black ice, the RAC said.

Opencast strike may be averted

Employers in the opencast coal mining industry hoped last night that they had averted a strike after Transport and General Workers' Union negotiators agreed to recommend acceptance of a revised pay offer.

Union members have held a series of one-day strikes in support of a pay claim, and were due this week to consider more stoppages, which would have hampered supplies of coal to power stations.

Weather forecast and recordings



b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 8.4 am — Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon rises: 9.29 am — Moon sets: 6.37 pm
First Quarter: December 26.

Lighting up: 4.23 pm to 7.34 am.
High water: London Bridge, 2.47 am, 7.3m (23.9ft); 3.10 pm, 7.4m (24.2ft). Avonmouth 8.20 am, 13.5m (44.2ft); 8.42 pm, 13.3m (43.6ft). Dover, 12.3 pm, 6.7m (21.9ft). Hull, 7.19 am, 7.2m (23.5ft); 7.27 pm, 7.4m (24.2ft). Liverpool, 12.4 am, 9.2m (30.3ft); 12.24 pm, 9.6m (31.4ft).

A ridge of high pressure covers most of the British Isles but a trough of low pressure will move SE into NW parts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, East Anglia, SE England, Channel Islands: Bright intervals, scattered wintry showers, frost in places early and late; wind NE, moderate or fresh; max temp 5°C (41°F).

E Midlands, E and central SE England: Bright intervals, isolated wintry showers, mist patches early, frost in places early and late; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 4°C or 5°C (39°F to 41°F).

W Midlands, SW England, S Wales: Mostly dry, bright or sunny intervals, early mist, frost in places early and late; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 5°C to 7°C (41°F to 45°F).

NE, NW and central N England, N Wales: Rather cloudy, some bright intervals, mostly dry, mist patches early with frost in places; wind variable, light; max temp 5°C to 7°C (41°F to 45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Wintry showers and bright intervals in SE; rain in NW spreading slowly into most W and N parts preceded by snow in places; rather cold.

Yesterday

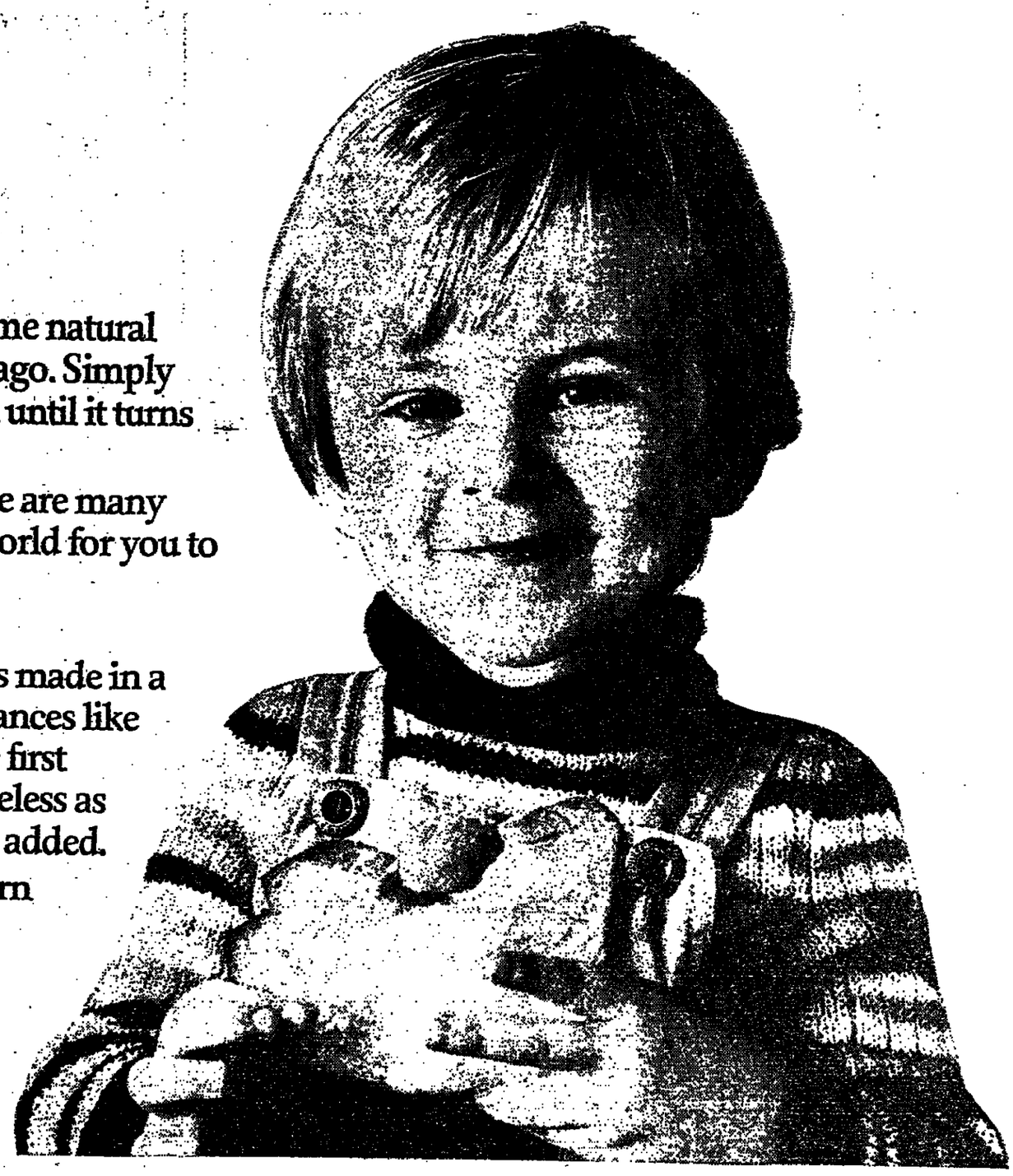
London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm 5°C (41°F); min 6 pm to 6 am 3°C (37°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 80 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.01in. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 1.0hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,024.0 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	19	66	Cardiff	s	8	46
Algiers	f	11	52	Cologne	f	5	41
Amsterdam	f	5	41	Copenhgn	f	1	34
Athens	f	16	61	Dublin	c	3	37
Barcelona	f	8	46	Florence	f	8	46
Belfast	c	7	45	Funchal	c	17	63
Berlin	f	4	39	Geneva	sn	2	36
Biarritz	f	0	32	Gibraltar	f	12	54
Bermuda	f	19	66	Helsinki	sn	1	34
Blackpool	f	4	39	Hong Kong	f	19	66
Birmingham	f	3	37	Innsbruck	f	3	37
Bristol	s	5	41	Jersey	f	8	46
Brussels	c	4	39	Lisbon	s	13	55
Aberdeen	s	4	39	Malaga	f	14	57
Belfast	c	7	45	Malta	f	14	57
Birmingham	f	3	37	Manchester	s	5	41
Blackpool	s	5	41	Majorca	f	9	48
Bournemouth	f	8	46	Milan	f	2	36
Brussels	c	4	39	Moscow	f	11	52
Cardiff	s	8	46	Munich	f	3	37
Channel Is	f	8	46	Nairobi	f	19	66
Cologne	f	5	41	Naples	f	9	48
Cork	f	7	45	Nice	f	11	52
Dublin	c	3	37	Oslo	f	10	50
Edinburgh	s	4	39	Paris	f	7	45
Florence	f	8	46	Perth	f	4	39
Frankfurt	f	3	37	Prague	f	3	37
Funchal	c	17	63	Reykjavik	f	1	34
Glasgow	s	4	39	Rome	f	12	54
Guernsey	f	8	46	Salzburg	f	3	37
Helsinki	sn	1	34	Singapore	f	27	81
Innsbruck	f	3	37	Stockholm	sn	1	34
Isle of Man	s	5	41	Strasbourg	f	3	37
Jersey	f	8	46	Tel Aviv	f	22	72
Kirkwall	f	3	37	Tenerife	f	19	66
Lisbon	s	13	55	Venice	f	4	39
London	f	7	45	Vienna	f	3	37
Luxembourg	f	2	36	Warsaw	f	2	36
Madrid	f	9	48	Zurich	f	2	36
Manchester	s	5	41				
Menorca	f	9	48				
Milan	f	2	36				
Moscow	f	11	52				
Munich	f	3	37				
Newcastle	s	5	41				
New York	s	10	50				
Oslo	f	10	50				
Paris	f	7	45				
Perth	f	4	39				
Prague	f	3	37				
Reykjavik	f	1	34				
Rome	f	12	54				
Salzburg	f	3	37				
Singapore	f	27	81				
Stockholm	sn	1	34				
Strasbourg	f	3	37				
Tel Aviv	f	22	72				
Tenerife	f	19	66				
Venice	f	4	39				
Vienna	f	3	37				
Warsaw	f	2	36				
Zurich	f	2	36				

Overseas selling prices
Australia $1.50; Austria Sch. 20; Bahrain BD 0.600; Belgium B frs 30; Canaries Pes 80; Cyprus 350 Mils; Denmark Dkr. 4.75; Finland Fmk 5; France Frs 4; Germany Dm 2.50; Greece Dr 40; Holland Gr 2.25; Iran Rials 110; Iraq ID 0.450; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 500; Jordan ID 0.375; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 25; Madeira Esc 35; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 4.00; Norway Kr 5.00; Oman OR 0.640; Pakistan Rps 9.00; Portugal Esc 40; Qatar QR 4.00; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 70; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland Sfrs 2.70; Syria LS 4.50; Tunisia Din 0.635; USA & Canada $1.00; UAE Dh 4.50; Yugoslavia Din 50.

Sorry, Marge!



Butter is made today by much the same natural method as it was made thousands of years ago. Simply by taking pure dairy cream and churning it until it turns into butter.

This natural method means that there are many kinds of butter from different parts of the world for you to choose from.

But butter always tastes like butter.

Margarine tastes different because it is made in a different way. Basically it's made from substances like vegetable oils, fish oils and tallow. These are first refined and deodorised until they are as tasteless as possible. Then flavourings, vitamins etc. are added.

The result tastes as good as any modern synthetic product can.

But it's not butter. And it doesn't taste like butter. Does it?

Sorry Marge.

Only butter tastes like butter.

BUTTER INFORMATION COUNCIL, THE PANTILES HOUSE, 2 NEVILL STREET, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN2 5TT

HOME NEWS

New deal for landlords and council tenants

By Christopher Warman and John Young

The Government's promise to give local authority tenants, and in some cases housing authority tenants, a statutory right to buy their homes is *enshrined in the Housing Bill*, published yesterday.

Other sections of the Bill if enacted will give council tenants security of tenure and allow them to take in lodgers and to get improvement grants on the same basis as owner-occupiers.

Private landlords will be enabled to let at fair rents for *fixed terms of between one and* five years, at the end of which they will have the right to regain possession.

A new deficit housing subsidy system will be introduced for local authorities, new town corporations and the Development Board for Rural Wales. Its object will be to meet the difference between subsidizable housing costs and the contribution which authorities can reasonably be expected to make from their own resources.

A schedule to the Act is intended to extend and simplify the regulations for improvement and repairs grants introduced in the Housing Act, 1974.

As promised recently by Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing, the Government will underwrite part of any losses incurred by local authorities which acquire and improve houses for resale.

Another of Mr Stanley's undertakings is given effect in a clause that enables councils to guarantee building society *mortgages. For the first time*, a council will be empowered to indemnify a society for the whole or part of a defaulting mortgagor's outstanding debt and where necessary transfer the mortgage to itself.

An unusually long section of the introductory chapter is devoted to the financial effects of the Bill, clearly in an attempt to refute charges that the sale of council properties will result in a substantial net loss to the Exchequer.

Assuming an average selling less discounts, of £7,000, with 30 per cent of the finance provided privately, it concludes that there would be immediate net capital receipts of £21m for every 10,000 houses sold, rising to between £25m and £40m in the fifth year.

Allowing for the cost of tax relief on mortgages, there would be associated current account savings of up to £3m.

Against that would need to be set expenditure rising to about £10m a year, connected *with the proposed new rights* for public sector tenants. About a tenth of that will be for legal expenses and the rest for additional staff and administrative costs within the Department of the Environment, the Welsh Office and local authorities.

On the right to buy, which has been one of the main planks of the Government's domestic policy both during the last election campaign and since it came to office, the Bill states that a secure public sector *tenant of at least three* years standing will have the right to acquire the freehold of a house or a long lease on a flat. The period of such a lease is assumed to be 125 years with vacant possession.

The price payable will be, broadly speaking, the value of the property on the open market, less a discount ranging from 33 per cent to 50 per cent depending on the time the buyer has been a tenant. Part of the discount will be repayable if the freehold or lease is resold within five years.

As expected, the right to buy will not extend to tenants of housing associations which are registered charities. Under the Charities Act 1960, such associations are forbidden to dispose of assets to their beneficiaries on terms that might allow the beneficiaries to make a profit.

The right to buy will also carry with it the right to a mortgage from the local *authority or, in the case of a* housing association tenant, from the housing corporation. If a tenant's mortgage entitlement is insufficient to enable him to purchase immediately, he will be enabled to complete the purchase within two years by making a deposit of £100.

In the private sector, the introduction of shorthold tenancies is an attempt to persuade landlords to use empty properties by assuring them that they will be able to regain possession at the end of a set period.

During that period tenants will have full security, except in the case of non-payment of rent or breach of tenancy conditions.

The Bill also provides for assured tenancies, which will permit approved landlords to let new dwellings outside the provisions of the Rent Acts.

Leading article, page 13

Pianist is missing before tour of Russia

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

Terence Judd, one of the most successful young pianists in Britain, has disappeared in London a week before he was to leave for a concert tour of Russia. He left his parents' house in Willesden on Sunday afternoon to go for a walk. He

Mrs Gloria Judd, his mother, said last night: "He said he was going out for a long walk. He wanted fresh air and exercise after practising, because he was getting in trim for his tour".

The police were unable to trace him. Nor has he been taken to hospital.

"We are very distressed. We do not know what might have happened. Nothing like this has ever happened before. That is why we are particularly worried about his safety".

Mr Judd, aged 22, was to have left for Russia next Sunday. He was to give six solo recitals and a concert with the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra. Russia held no special fears for him. He made two short tours there last year after winning a fourth prize in the Tchaikovsky piano competition in Moscow.

His mother a former orchestral player, said he had not been particularly worried about the trip. "There were just the normal pre-concert concerns. Artists do get a little more keyed up than usual; but there was nothing exceptional".

Her son had been wearing a coat when he left. He had not taken any money with him.

MPs to study future of British Library

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The funding and organization of courses in higher education and the future of the British Library and other national libraries are the first two subjects to be investigated by the new Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and Arts.

The first oral evidence to be heard, on January 16, by the nine-member committee will be from the Department of Education and Science and the new Government Office of Arts and Libraries.

The committee hopes to finish hearing evidence on libraries by April 30 and on higher education by May 31. *It will then go on to investigate* short-listed topics.

Those include: secondary school curricula and examinations; relations between schools and industry, with particular attention to the needs of those aged 16-19; public and private sponsorship of the arts; support for fundamental sciences; and research council funding policy.

Announcing the committee's decision in London yesterday, Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, and chairman of the committee, said that in selecting the funding and organization of courses in higher education from a vast number of candidates for inquiry, the committee had been principally influenced by two considerations.

First, the possible topics put forward by Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, at the committee's request included two on policies for higher education:

1. Subject balance in broad terms in relation to the future of highly qualified manpower. Precise manpower planning is no longer considered feasible because of the long lead time required by educational planning; but for the same reason broad guidelines on subject priorities within the higher education system would be valuable and need further study.
2. Policies for preserving academic quality and new development in a period of static or declining student numbers. With the prospect of constant or declining numbers on both sides of the binary line it is essential to develop management policies *which allow for room for new* developments by eliminating unnecessary duplication. This will require a response both at national and institutional level.

Secondly, Mr Price said, the members of the committee had received substantial representations about the effect on higher education courses of full-cost fees for overseas students.

The committee would be *looking at higher education in* the light of Mr Carlisle's request on subject priority; the need for management policies to implement the broad guidelines suggested by Mr Carlisle; and the claim that full-cost fees would destroy certain courses.

On libraries, the committee would be looking in particular at the development of information storage and retrieval in the British Library and other national libraries.

It was the committee's aim to give Government "rapid, coherent, relevant, but not necessarily comprehensive, advice", Mr Price said. It did not intend to be a form of royal commission, but simply to provide advice on policies quickly enough to be able to influence decision making.

Fears grow of IRA using new missiles

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

The Irish Government's decision to equip its army with ground-to-air missiles may indicate a growing fear of the IRA's ability to use modern weapons gained in guerrilla warfare during the past 10 years.

That fear is shared in Northern Ireland. The army is concerned that the Provisional IRA will acquire the Russian *surface-to-air missile (SAM)*.

The Sam-7, which is shoulder-held, was used with devastating effect in Vietnam. It is believed to be available on the black market at a price *between £8,000 and £10,000*. There is no evidence that any are in terrorist hands.

Official manuals describe the Sam-7 as a "man portable infra-red homing light anti-aircraft missile". It relies on tail-pursuit interception to engage low-flying aircraft and is highly effective against helicopters.

It is believed that a Sam-7 was responsible for bringing down a Rhodesian civilian airliner earlier this year at Kariba, killing 59 people.

In the immediate border *areas of Ulster, helicopters are* the only safe transport for military personnel. No military vehicle travels by road within a considerable distance of the border unless it must.

If the IRA was able to shoot down high-flying helicopters the terrorist war would enter a new dimension. The prospect of a Sam-7 being deployed against a troop-carrying aircraft alarms senior soldiers.

The missile is 1.29 metres long and weighs 9.2 kilogrammes. An official Ministry of Defence report in April, 1976, said the range was nine to 10 kilometers. It is relatively simple to operate.

The republican army is being equipped with ground-to-air missiles, principally for training purposes. There is speculation that their true purpose is to protect visiting VIPs against the use of new weapons by the IRA.

Photograph by Harry Kerr

Mrs Iris Mills, Mr Ronan Bennet (centre) and Mr Vincent Stevenson yesterday

Acquittal jury hears defendant's statements

Continued from page 1

. . . and nobody ever criticizes a judge when he says he agrees with the verdicts and I do not see why anyone should criticize a judge if he happens to indicate that he does not agree with it."

The judge told Mr Carr: "From the disclosures you have made it now appears the case is far more serious than the Crown was able to present in the trial which has just ended and from the enormous wealth of detail you were able to give."

He praised the jury for the conscientious manner they dealt with the trial of the four which had lasted over 60 days, but he added: "If I may so now you can see what you have done. And I pray to God that none of you will ever have occasion to regret it".

This kind of result sometimes gives people the view that trial by jury was wrong. Judge King-Hamilton said he did not agree. "Trial by jury is one of our most cherished institutions and *in at least 90 per cent of cases* juries take their task with a due sense of responsibility. My comments are intended for the remaining 10 per cent who sometimes seem to refuse to face up and act upon the unchallenged evidence which, I must respectfully say, could not confuse a child."

The four they acquitted were Mr Vincent Stevenson, aged 25; Mr Trevor Dawton, aged 21, both formerly of Percival Street, east London and now of no fixed address; Iris Mills, aged 31, a married woman; and Mr Ronan Bennett, aged 23, both of Kensington Gardens Square, Bayswater, London.

A number of the defendants were in the public gallery during the day as Mr Worsley began to read from Stewart Carr's statements.

When Mr Carr was arrested police found a gas cannister and sheets of paper giving names of various people.

Mr Worsley said that Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips were potential targets.

Lawyers reply: The British jury system as a whole was under "serious attack" from the judge in the anarchists trial *some* lawyers involved in the case said last night.

In a statement to the Lord Chancellor's Office, Bar Council, and Law Society, the lawyers said: "The cardinal feature of the English system of criminal justice is the determination of guilt or innocence by a jury.

"It is their task, and only theirs, to examine the evidence presented by parties to the case and to reach a conclusion in an independent manner without fear.

"In this instance, there has been a serious attack upon this particular jury and the jury system as a whole, which we feel is a matter no member of the legal profession can overlook."

The statement was signed by nine barristers and solicitors who represented the four defendants acquitted on Wednesday.

Anarchists say verdict was correct

By Ian Bradley

Three of the four anarchists who were acquitted at the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday said yesterday that the jury's verdict was correct and they were all innocent.

Mr Ronan Bennett, Mrs Iris Mills and Mr Vincent Stevenson held a press conference in Lon*don after the sentencing* of Stewart Carr to nine years in jail after pleading guilty to conspiring to rob.

Statements said to have been made by Mr Carr to the police *and read out in court implicated* them in armed robberies of supermarkets and other places to finance the purchase of arms and bomb-making materials.

Mr Bennett said that Mr Carr's statement had not been introduced as evidence. He said: "We were never given a chance to challenge or test it. Had we been given a chance, we would have exposed its inconsistencies, downright lies and false allegations".

He went on: "Stewart Carr alleged that we took part in a series of armed robberies. We all voluntarily took part in a series of identification parades and were never picked out."

Mr Bennett said that the robberies had obviously taken place, but that Mr Carr had changed the names of those who took part "to protect the guilty".

He said that he did not know why Mr Carr, with whom he *had* shared a cell in Brixton prison for many months and whom he had visited thereafter, had suggested that he and the others had taken part in the robberies.

Referring to Judge Alan King-Hamilton's remark that the jury had been "remarkably merciful in the face of the evidence" in acquitting the four anarchists, Mr Bennett said:

"If he made the comments outside the court he would be leaving himself open to a libel action. He treated the jury in a patronizing manner."

Mr Bennett said that the anarchist movement in Britain, for which he works full-time, would continue to develop as before.

He said he could envisage no circumstances in which he would use violence for a political end. "Anarchists are often accused of using violence to change society. In fact, in history it has never been anarchists who have used violence."

A judge often courted by controversy

By a Staff Reporter

Judge Alan King-Hamilton ended his judicial career in the controversial style that has *characterized it since* his appointment as a judge of the Central Criminal Court in 1964. The anarchists' trial which has just ended was his last. At 75 he has now retired.

He has been outspoken and kindly, irritating and merciful. There are barristers in whom mention of his name nearly provokes a fit of apoplexy, and criminals who have cause to thank him for his leniency.

He did not keep his views secret, and seemed to enjoy the publicity that attended some of his more provocative remarks. He regretted, for instance, that the courts could not put offenders in the stocks to make them look ridiculous. A bully should have to wear a placard saying "I am a bully", he said. He was also in favour of courts having the power to order corporal punishment.

On one occasion, after a particularly nasty case of rape, he postponed sentence for two hours, saying that he felt so distressed and angry that "I would not trust myself in my present state of mind to pass a proper sentence".

He was a severe sentencer where offences involving violence were concerned, or where young people were the victims. He was equally harsh when he sentenced an £8m bank robber to 23 years in prison, saying that he wanted to make sure that the criminal could never enjoy the fruits of his robbery.

But if his remarks have more than once resulted in controversy, his manner has almost invariably been courteous and patient, to counsel and witnesses alike. He always listened carefully, and usually looked interested in what was being said. Unlike some other judges, he seldom showed boredom.

He has been the judge in a number of noted trials and among the cognoscienti was known for his reliability in long, complicated cases

Judge Alan King-Hamilton: the end of a long and controversial career.

Professors and lecturers accept 10% pay offer

By Our Education Correspondent

University professors and lecturers voted yesterday "reluctantly" to accept an offer of an immediate 10 per cent increase in pay, and a reference to the Clegg commission on pay comparability for the rest of their original claim of more than 30 per cent.

The 10 per cent will be backdated to October 1. A further 6 per cent will be paid "on account" from next April, pending the report by the Clegg commission, with the balance to be paid next October.

The award will mean that a university lecturer's salary will range from £4,766 to £9,891, and will go up to between £5,052 and £10,485 in April. The salary for a senior lecturer or reader will range from £9,568 to £11,853, and will go up to between £10,142 and £12,564 in April. A professor's average salary will be £14,148, rising to £14,997 in April.

The Government announced last month that universities were to receive an extra £31.8m to take account of pay settlements for all university staff within the current financial year, above those already allowed for in their annual grant.

11,000 university places 'denied to young people'

Eleven thousand young people are likely to be denied a university place next year because of the Government's short-sightedness in cutting university funds, Dr A. W. B. Taylor, president of the Association of University Teachers, said at the opening of the association's council meeting in Sheffield yesterday.

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education, had claimed that Britain had the most expensive universities.

The suggestion that funds should be cut came from Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of *State for Education.*

'Cut universities rather than quality'

By *Our Education* Correspondent

Another vice-chancellor has called for a reduction in the number of universities rather than sacrificing quality as a result of equal spending cuts for all.

In his address to the court of Leicester University, Mr Maurice Shock, vice-chancellor, said that the Government should understand that its determination to cut public expenditure was not enough. Questions of policy could not be avoided.

Britain still enjoyed the great advantage of a university sys*tem of as high quality as any* in the world. But irreparable damage could be caused if the Government subjected universities to spending cuts that meant their all being subjected to "salami slicing of the worst kind".

Morale would be sapped and efficiency lowered, and innovation and experiment would be out of the question. Universities would be enfeebled, with shrunken staffs, depleted student numbers and impoverished research.

If the country could not afford to maintain the present *university system properly, and* if hard choices had to be made, "let us be determined not to sacrifice quality. Far better a smaller number of universities with the highest standards of teaching and research than the palsied system to which we seem to be drifting", he said.

Universities had been told that the best they could hope for, over the next few years was level funding. On present evidence the fall in Leicester University's income would mean a reduction of at least a fifth in its level of activities.

Tilting train sets 160 mph record

A new British rail speed record of 160 mph was set by one of *British Rail's three* prototype advanced passenger trains between Glasgow and Carlisle yesterday.

The lightweight tilting train, due to enter passenger service next spring, beat its own record of 155 mph, set a fortnight ago. The driver, Mr Ernest Rae, aged 53, of Glasgow, described the run as "extremely smooth".

MP critically ill

Sir Stephen McAdden, aged 72, Conservative MP for Southend, East, was critically ill yesterday in St Thomas's Hospital, London, after falling down steps at Westminster Underground station.

Dismissal of teacher who remarried angers staff

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

An education authority has been asked to overturn the decision of a Roman Catholic schools board of governors who have decided to dismiss a history teacher because his remarriage is "contrary to the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church".

Colleagues and pupils of Mr Peter Morgan, a history teacher at St Josephs Comprehensive School, Newport, Gwent, were delighted when they heard of his new marriage two months ago and organized a collection to buy him a wedding present.

Now other staff at the school where Mr Morgan has taught for 11 "happy and successful years" are threatening to take industrial action when the new term starts. Mr Morgan was divorced seven years ago.

The governors, who include three priests, a nun and four lay members, made their decision after considering a "charge sheet" which questioned whether Mr Morgan had violated Catholic doctrine.

Mr Hywel Vaughan, regional organizer of the National Union of Teachers, said: "To sack a teacher for what he does in his private life when it is entirely within the law is not acceptable in a modern democracy. It is religious persecution which we will fight all the way".

A spokesman for Gwent County Council said: "An Education subcommittee will now look at the proposals from the governors". In the meantime Mr Morgan has been suspended on full pay.

Milk price rise annoys farmers and consumers

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

The announcement by the Government of a rise by a tenth in the price of bottled milk was criticized by farmers and consumer groups yesterday. The National Farmers' Union said the increase was too late; consumer groups said it was too early.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in a parliamentary written reply that the price of most milk would be allowed to rise by 1½p to 16½p a pint on February 17 next, and sterilized milk by 2p a pint.

"*These increases* have been made necessary by increased costs of wages, production, processing and distribution", Mr Walker said.

Mr Richard Butler, president of the NFU, said the price should have been raised in October. "To delay implementation until February means there will be little benefit to dairy farmers during the most critical period of the winter. Without this decision, however, the prospects for next year would have been disastrous for many farmers."

The Consumers' Association said that prices should not have been raised before the Government had received an accountants' report, now being compiled, about profits in the dairy trade.

Mr Maurice Healy, head of the consumer policy unit at the Government-appointed National Consumer Council, said: "It is an increase in a market in which competition cannot work properly. I think that consumers have to query a system in which the Government sets the price in a trade where there is no competition."

Britons invade the French coast to land butter bargains and Christmas candles

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Tomorrow, tempests permitting, thousands of Britons will be descending on the French Channel ports to complete their *cours de Noël*. The ferry companies are expecting an extra rush because last weekend's severe weather kept shiploads of trippers at home.

The strengthened pound has made a difference to the British image abroad. In Calais one shopkeeper said: "A few *years ago the English would* come in, touch everything, and buy nothing. Now they are reasonable customers again."

That does not mean they are universally popular, though. At the Continent hypermarket, a mecca for weekend coach parties, a French customer said: "It is impossible to shop here on Saturdays. You cannot get a trolley. The British bag them all and then spend hours arguing interminably about what they should buy."

A manager said: "We try to keep everybody happy, but it is true the British do cause some traffic jams."

At the Champion supermarket, in Boulogne, the wine shelves have been rearranged to separate sweet wine from dry, all labelled in English. That does not stop long discussions of the implications of words such as *sec, doux, brut* and *moelleux*.

"I don't think the English know wine is for drinking", Mmme Yvette Lebrun, of Boulogne, said. "They think about buying it as long as they would an important piece of furniture. I think they put it on the shelf and keep it for an ornament for ever after."

Boulogne's leading cheese merchant, M Philippe Oliver, in the rue Thiers, said a fifth of his trade was with English *customers*, "but on Saturday that leaps to four fifths".

It was certainly not true, he added, that the British came only for supplies of France's EEC-subsidized Christmas butter. "The English appreciate French cheese, and we are pleased to advise them."

French housewives actively discourage the purchase of the Christmas butter, available at about 29p a 250 gram pack (against 35p to 45p in Britain). "No, monsieur", one told me in Calais. "Please do not. That is not fresh. It does not taste good." *Some go so far as to* suggest that the bargain offer has been doctored in some way, like methylated spirits.

Favourite purchases among the mid-week shoppers included crystal glass, iron cooking utensils, and children's shoes and clothes. The Champion shop was doing a brisk export trade in 10 franc (about £1.10) candles shaped like Christmas trees and Father Christmases, *and* were also selling Continental-size breakfast coffee cups filled with nuts and raisins.

At Nouvelles Galleries, in Boulogne, a Londoner showed me a toilet box. "*I have just* bought this for my mother, at 110 francs. I looked high and low in England for such a thing, but all I could find were covered in filthy flowers or had wonky lids. And the French gift-wrap it free."

Others were filling their shopping bags with exotic foodstuffs. Bottled asparagus, hare *pâté*, tinned duck, and fancy mustards were among the favourites. "The French have condensed soups we just cannot buy", said one woman, who asked to remain anonymous as she will be serving her *cans to* guests on Christmas Day.

In the supermarkets the English shoppers eyed French Christmas cakes distrustfully. *The bûches de Noël* are cream-filled log shapes, beset with plastic toadstools, pine cones, gnomes and mistletoe. Despite the plastic containers in which they are sold, most people *decided the cakes would never* reach home *safely*.

Court criticism of authorities on benefits fraud

From Our Correspondent
Coventry

The Department of Health and Social Security and the Post Office were criticized at Nuneaton Magistrates' Court, Warwickshire, yesterday over payments made to a woman who claimed them illegally.

Bridget Cawley, aged 28, of Guild Road, Coventry, pleaded guilty to three sample charges of illegally obtaining £68.10. She was said to have obtained £1,354 illegally since 1974. She was placed on probation for three years and ordered to repay £296, the maximum allowed by Parliament.

Mr Nicholas Johnson, for the defence said Mrs Cawley lied to the clerk at the DHSS in Coventry, saying she had lost her payments book. She was *issued with a new book*, from which she drew money in Coventry. She then drew more money from the original book at a post office in Bedworth, where the clerk did not follow *DHSS* safety procedures.

Mr Johnson added: "There is criticism of two authorities. The DHSS clerks should have checked more thoroughly and the post office clerk should have followed procedure."

Five independent airlines awarded old BA routes

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Five independent airlines were yesterday awarded a number of air routes in Britain which British Airways is giving up as unprofitable.

The main awards were to Air UK and British Midland, based at East Midlands airport. Air UK received Manchester—Isle of Man; Leeds/Bradford—Belfast; London, Heathrow—Guernsey; and Edinburgh—Jersey.

British Midland received Heathrow — Leeds/Bradford; Heathrow—Isle of Man; and Glasgow—Jersey or Guernsey.

Dan-Air was awarded Bristol or Cardiff—Jersey; Leeds/Bradford—Guernsey; Bristol or Cardiff—Belfast; and Newcastle—Belfast.

Guernsey Airlines received a licence for Manchester—Guernsey; and Jersey European Airways Newcastle—Guernsey or Jersey. JEA also received a licence for a new route between Stansted airport, London and Jersey or Guernsey.

British Airways is to give up 26 domestic routes from next April, because it has been losing £6m a year on them.

£5m aim: Air UK said it expected to carry 200,000 extra passengers and earn up to £5m additional revenue as a result of the reallocations (the Press Association *reports*).

The company will operate next month after the amalgamation of British Islands Airways, Air Anglia and two smaller airlines, all of which are British and Commonwealth group companies.

School burns textbooks

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Mr Barry Ellis, headmaster of Meden Comprehensive School, Warsop, Nottinghamshire, yesterday ordered the burning of school textbooks because they contained swear words.

Mr Ellis said he had had complaints from the parents of a girl aged 14 that she was asked to read out "pit language" in a lesson.

"The incident distressed the girl's parents. We can get home the point we want to make to this particular part of the course by using other literature," he said.

The book, *The Human Element*, was being used in a CSE course involving the subject of crime.

Race legislation argument 'is unconvincing'

By Annabel Ferriman

The Government's argument for introducing different treating to bring their foreign ment for men and women wish spouses into the country did not seem very convincing, a parliamentary subcommittee was told yesterday.

Professor Francis Jacob, Professor of European Law at King's College, London, said the main justification advanced in the parliamentary debate on the proposals seemed to be that such treatment was a necessary consequence of the present *nationality legislation* and that as a husband was the head of a family his abode was the normal family home.

"That does not seem very convincing today", he said. He was speaking to the Home Affairs Committee's subcommittee on race relations and immigration, one of the new committees, which was considering the new immigration rules and the European Convention on Human Rights.

Professor Jacob said that the new rules appeared to violate Articles 8 and 14 of the convention. Article 8 gave residents of the European Community the right to respect for family life and Article 14 said that the right should be enjoyed without discrimination according to sex, race or religion.

New sentence on 'contract killer'

John Henry Childs, the "contract killer", who is serving life sentences imposed earlier this month for six murders, was given a concurrent six-year sentence at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for robbery.

Mr Childs, aged 41, had pleaded guilty to robbing with others a Security Express van of £501,000 on June 20.

HOME NEWS

Decision deferred on wider police power to give breath tests

Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

The Government has dodged a controversial issue of whether the police should have wider powers to give breath tests to motorists suspected of drinking. A consultation document on drinking and driving, published yesterday, leaves the matter open for further discussion.

The document says that the Government would be opposed to indiscriminate testing, and the question was whether the present restrictions on the police's power to test could be removed without leading to such a result.

Under the present law a police officer can ask a driver for a breath specimen only in three cases: after an accident; when the officer has reasonable suspicion that the driver has alcohol in his body; or if he has reasonable suspicion that the driver has committed a moving traffic offence.

The Blennerhassett committee, set up by the previous Labour government, recommended that to strengthen the law against drinking drivers the police power to give breath tests should be "unfettered". The committee did not think that the police would abuse the power.

The consultation document, however, says the proposal raises the prospect of innocent motorists being stopped and tested, and that might be resented by many of them as an unreasonable, unjustified and possibly distressing intrusion into their lives by the police.

The Government does propose to accept the Blennerhassett recommendation that there should be power to breath-test people involved in a road accident or motor vehicles on a random basis to people driving badly.

The document reserves final judgment on another Blennerhassett proposal, that "high risk" offenders should not be allowed back on the road unless they can satisfy the court that they are drinking no longer present a hazard to themselves or other road users.

There is agreement with the Blennerhassett report that the present legal blood alcohol limit should remain at 80 mg per 100 ml and that breath analysis should replace blood or urine sampling.

The document notes the steep rise in hit-and-run offences and says that many seem to be drink-related. The Government is considering what action might be taken and hints at harsher penalties for failing to stop and report an accident.

The Blennerhassett report was published in April, 1976. Its recommendations were accepted en bloc by the Labour government, but a crowded parliamentary timetable allowed no opportunity to introduce legislation.

Now the Conservatives find themselves in the same position. Mr Norman Fowler, the Minister of Transport, said yesterday that there was no possibility of a Bill in the current session of Parliament and it could be at least 18 months before the law was changed. But the Government was determined to make a new attack on drinking and driving and the consultation document would give interested organizations a chance to express their views.

Mr Fowler also made the Government's traditional pre-Christmas appeal to motorists not to drink and drive. Launching a £1.25m publicity campaign, he said that alcohol was the largest cause of death and injury on the road.

Commenting on the Government's proposals, the Automobile Association said: "We welcome the intention to tighten up the drink-driving laws. In our view everything possible must be done to close loopholes and to ensure that drivers who have clearly drunk over the limit run a far greater chance of being apprehended.

"We believe the time has come for the police to be given wider discretionary powers; and we have every confidence in them to exercise such powers sensibly and responsibly. We do not see that these powers need be any more random than the random element that exists now."

Photograph by Brian Harris

Vietnamese "boat people" assembling in London yesterday before marching to the offices of the "Morning Star" to ask the communist newspaper to report the plight of the refugees.

Yard men end work on hunt for 'Ripper'

From Arthur Osman
Leeds

Commander James Nevill and Det Chief Supt Joseph Bolton of the Metropolitan Police have ended their involvement in the hunt for the Yorkshire Ripper, it was said in Leeds yesterday.

They are to prepare a report for Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire. Mr Nevill declined to say what would go into the report but said: "I feel that in the past month we have accomplished a lot, more than we hoped at the beginning. We are satisfied with what we have achieved. The clue to the identity of the Ripper still lies with the public. He must be somewhere and he cannot be suspended in space."

Mr Gregory repeated his warning to women to be especially wary. He said the Scotland Yard officers had done what they came to do and had provided fresh suggestions and impetus to the inquiry. "It has been a very well worthwhile exercise".

The new leader of the squad of nearly 500 officers exclusively engaged in the hunt for the killer of 12 women is to be Det Chief Supt Peter Gilrain of Bradford. Det Chief Supt James Hobsoff of Leeds resumes as acting head of CID in West Yorkshire, pending the return to duty of Mr George Oldfield who has been absent since the summer with heart trouble.

It was said yesterday that Mr Oldfield would return as head of CID, but it was not stated whether he would resume his former position of being in change of the Ripper inquiries.

Medium's help sought: The mother of a victim of the Yorkshire Ripper is to appear on television with a medium to try to get in touch with her husband, who died two months ago (the Press Association reports).

The medium, Mrs Doris Stokes, aged 59, thinks Jayne MacDonald's father may be able to "play detective" now he is dead and may have fresh, important information.

Press body upholds complaint by referee

A football referee's comments on the trouble-free state of the game in the United States and his concern with family sport in Britain did not justify a headline and report saying that he had switched his interests to speedway, the Press Council said yesterday.

It upheld a complaint by Mr Kenneth Aston, of Trinity Road, Ilford, Essex, that the *Daily Express*, having quoted remarks which he never made, failed to publish a retraction and apology.

Mr Roger Kelly reported in the *Daily Express* under the headline "Aston changes sides" that Mr Aston was switching interests in an attempt to revive speedway at Dagenham, Essex, because hooliganism had driven him from football after 40 years.

Trouble-free sport, Mr Aston was quoted as saying, was "not soccer any more". He was on a tour of the United States, where, according to the report, he said that football was still a family sport.

Mr Aston's solicitors told the editor of the *Daily Express* that Mr Aston never mentioned football when the reporter telephoned him in the United States and the quotations were false.

Mr Aston told the council's complaints committee that he was used to choosing his words carefully when dealing with the press. He did not remember saying that he was switching his interest to speedway or changing sides, but agreed that he could have remarked on football being a family sport in the United States.

The Press Council's adjudication was:

Although the complainant stated in his interview that he was now interested in family sport and in trouble-free sport and drew a contrast with the position in the United States where, he said, soccer was still a family sport, the Press Council does not consider that these comments justified the use of the headline and the reporter's conclusion that Mr Aston had switched his interests. The complaint against the Daily *Express* is upheld.

Launderettes face extra charge for 'trade effluent'

Owners of automatic laundries may have to pay extra charges to water authorities after a decision by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The court ruled that liquid discharged from washing machines in such laundries is "trade effluent" and not "domestic sewage" under the Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1937, and that higher charges apply. The court refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Later a legal representative of the London-based Blue and White Launderettes said: "This is a test case of major importance to the industry and several million pounds depends on todays' decision.

"We shall now be considering an application to the House of Lords appellate committee seeking leave to appeal."

The court allowed with costs an appeal by Thames Water Authority from a Clerkenwell County Court decision rejecting its claim for £1,355 concerning discharge of effluent from nine Blue and White launderettes.

Lord Justice Eveleigh said the appeal was solely concerned with the question whether the effluent concerned was "trade effluent" within the meaning of the 1937 Act.

"In my opinion the exclusion of domestic sewage in the Act is intended to relate to the household activities on the premises, the domestic activities of those who work there, as opposed to the effects of the business activities", the appeal judge said.

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Jail for reckless driver who killed five

From Our Correspondent
Portsmouth

Keith Inglis, aged 32, admitted at Portsmouth Crown Court yesterday five charges of causing death by reckless driving and was jailed for four months. He was also banned from driving for two years.

The victims included two of his close friends and three members of a family travelling in another car. Mr Inglis, of Central Road, Drayton, Portsmouth, was critically injured in the crash, on the A27 dual carriageway in Portsmouth last January. The only other survivor was a girl aged eight months.

Mr David Elfer, for the prosecution, told Mr John Spokes, QC, the recorder, that Mr Inglis and the child were "excessively lucky" to be alive in view of the violence of the collision. Not even seatbelts, he said, could have saved those who died.

Mr Inglis's Vauxhall Cavalier crossed the central reservation at a speed estimated at 70 mph. Counsel said that Mr Inglis at first entered a slip road at about 80 mph, then changed his mind and steered back on to the carriageway, but lost control.

On the opposite carriageway his car crashed into a Ford Cortina containing Mrs Lorraine Ogilvie, the driver, her daughters, Nichola, aged eight, and Clare, aged eight months, and Mrs Hilda Cochrane, aged 78, the girls' grandmother. Only the baby survived and she is being cared for by her father. Mr Inglis's two passengers, Ruth Batchelor, aged 26, and Martin Hayto, aged 29, both of Laburnum Grove, Portsmouth, also died.

Mr Elfer said other drivers told the police that Mr Inglis had been driving dangerously a little earlier. He had crossed a roundabout at 50 mph without slowing down for another car, and had driven within six inches of a car he wanted to overtake, sounding his horn impatiently.

His passengers, who were being thrown about in their seats, joined in; Mr Hayto made a V-sign at the driver who had not moved over and Ruth Batchelor mouthed the word "bastard".

Mr Michael de Navarro, for the defence, said Mr Inglis could remember nothing of the accident. Medical reports had proved that the loss of memory was genuine.

Mr Inglis's estranged wife, Frances, said: "He says his life ended at the accident. He wishes they had never revived him."

Mothers should protect children better, doctors say

John Roper

Adults, whether as parents or vehicle drivers, must take more responsibility for the protection of young children against accidents, the British Medical Association said yesterday.

A booklet records that in a sample of 2,000 mothers in England and Wales some years ago less than 13 per cent of mothers of children aged only two years felt that it was safe to let their child cross a main road outside their house unaccompanied.

Accidental death of children was by far the most common cause of death over the age of one, and in older children more than half the deaths resulted from an accident, with road accidents the biggest cause.

One in six of all admissions of children to hospital resulted from an accident. Every year a sixth of city children were taken to their local hospital's accident and emergency unit, making a third of all attendances.

Accidents in the home included burns, scalds, falls, poisoning and drowning. The last was less a potential danger than in a country where many houses had swimming pools; but parents should fence even small areas of water in gardens where young children played.

The booklet was prepared by the association's Board of Science as a document of information and a contribution to the International Year of the Child. Sir John Stallworthy, chairman of the board, says in a foreword that the health of Britain's children is not as good as it might be.

A comforting finding is that a child born in Britain now is 10 times more likely to be alive and well at his eighteenth birthday than a child born in 1900. But the postnatal rate of mortality is said to remain almost stationary, with an estimated loss of 5,000 babies a year.

On Children's Health (British Medical Association, Tavistock Square, London, WC1; £1).

Professor Blunt plans book

Professor Anthony Blunt "almost certainly" will write a book and may agree to act as a consultant for films or television. The self-confessed traitor said yesterday in written replies to questions from the Press Association: "I should certainly give net proceeds to charity".

He felt very sorry for former spies such as Kim Philby, who fled to Moscow. "Although I have no evidence, I suspect that they are very unhappy there."

Professor Blunt, the "fourth man" in the Philby affair, has admitted he was a go-between for the escape of Burgess and Maclean in 1951. Five years later he was again a messenger between Philby and the Russians.

He said that he was relieved rather than astonished at the offer of immunity made to him in 1964 in return for his cooperation with the security authorities.

He chose to stay on as the Queen's art adviser "because there was still work for me to do in connexion with the Royal collection". He now felt shame at the embarrassment caused to the Queen.

WEST EUROPE

Strong man sent by Vatican to France

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Dec 20

The presentation of his credentials by a new Papal Nuncio to France is normally a routine diplomatic affair. This is not so in the case of Mgr Felici, whose name conjures up for French bishops dark, disturbing visions of bell, book and candle.

After all, it was Mgr Felici who, as Pro-Nuncio to the Netherlands, bought some order into the Dutch church, swept by the winds of violent change, and who was responsible for the nominations—contested by the Dutch bishops—of the new conservative incumbents of Roermond and Rotterdam.

Mgr Felici has obviously not been sent to France merely to preside at ecclesiastical ceremonies. Cardinal Marty, the Archbishop of Paris, in a statement at the time of his appointment last August, denied that he had come to reassert Vatican control over the French church.

But he went on to say that "the Nuncio is very firm, very hard working, trained in the school of Mgr Casaroli and Mgr Benelli" (whose reputation as an authoritarian is well established), only to add, rather unconvincingly that "there are no particular difficulties in the French church".

In fact, there are problems in the French church, and there have been for some years. There was the worker-priest movement in the 1950s, the left-wing radicalization of part of the lower clergy, especially in regions like Britanny, and a general lack of discipline in the application of the doctrinal and liturgical decisions of the Vatican Council.

There have also been maladroit sorties by some French bishops into politics, over nuclear weapons, for instance, and the traditionalist reaction led by Archbishop Lefèbvre.

The election of Pope John Paul II and the death of Cardinal Villot, the French Secretary of State in the Vatican, has introduced a formidable new dimension into French church affairs.

The new Pope's popular touch appeals to the French hierarchy. But the strong wind of doctrinal orthodoxy which has been blowing from Rome, and reached hurricane proportions with the latest string of condemnations by the Holy Office of prominent theologians, is not to its liking.

Throughout the recent upheavals in the French church, which Cardinal Marty refuses to see, the Catholic hierarchy, with the exception of a few bishops branded as right-wing or authoritarian, has generally adopted a prudent and passive attitude, except, to give it its due, on the subject of abortion. Many of the faithful in this country feel that their pastors are wanting in firmness and leadership

The misgivings of the French hierarchy about the new Pope are reciprocated. The Pope does not know the French church well, but what he knows is not altogether to his liking.

Cardinal Marty has already reached the age of 75, and wants to retire to the country, but he has been asked to stay on until a new archbishop is appointed to Paris.

Dutch Cabinet wins confidence vote after stormy debate on Nato plans for nuclear missiles

From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam, Dec 20

On the second anniversary of its installation, the Dutch coalition government of Christian Democrats and conservative Liberals last night survived its most critical confrontation with Parliament.

After a 16-hour debate in the Lower House on the Nato decision to modernize theatre nuclear forces, a motion of censure introduced by the Opposition was rejected by 81 to 66 votes. Shortly before the vote, Mr Andries van Agt, the Christian Democratic Prime Minister, had warned MPs that approval of the motion would entail the resignation of the Government.

The debate continued on the question to what extent the Dutch Cabinet had committed itself during last week's Nato council meeting which decided to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and Tomahawk cruise missiles in Western Europe. The Prime Minister gave no clear answer.

The Cabinet was in the delicate position of having on the one hand to appease 10 left-wing members of the Christian Democratic parliamentary group who two weeks ago voted with the Opposition against both production and deployment of the new missiles, and on the other hand not to antagonize its Liberal coalition partners who support the Nato decision.

Mr van Agt told Parliament that the decision to produce the new missiles was exclusively the responsibility of the United States. As to their deployment, each country had to decide for itself whether to station them on its soil.

The Netherlands announced in Brussels that it would take no decision on the deployment of 48 cruise missiles on Dutch soil before December, 1981, and would do so then in the light of progress made with the Soviet Union "in achieving effective and balanced limitation on long-range theatre nuclear forces on both sides".

In a surprise move, Mr van Agt produced a letter from Dr Joseph Luns, the Nato Secretary General, in which Dr Luns admits that he had made "a mistake" when he announced after last week's Nato meeting that the decision to produce the new missiles had been unanimous.

Mr van Agt told the House that his Government had done what it could in Brussels and had perhaps achieved more than any other government could have done short of leaving Nato.

Dr. Christof van der Klaauw, the Foreign Minister, said that the other Nato countries had been opposed to the incorporation of the diverging Dutch attitude in Nato's communiqué on the modernization issue. Mr van Agt admitted that the communiqué had perhaps reflected a somewhat rosy picture of the situation.

Both the Christian Democratic and Liberal parliamentary leaders announced that although not entirely happy they would not vote against the Government. Several of the left-wing Christian Democrats who had voted against the Government two weeks ago, said after the debate that nothing further could be achieved by bringing down the Cabinet.

Political observers here tend to agree that having survived this crucial test, Mr van Agt is firmly in the saddle both as Prime Minister and as leader of the often divided Christian Democrats.

Scaffolding to protect monuments of Rome

Rome, Dec 20.—Many of Rome's famous ancient monuments will be hidden from public view for several years behind scaffolding to protect them from air pollution.

Professor Adriano la Regina, the city's archaeology superintendent, said today, that the urgent measures were necessary because pollution had already caused irreparable damage to most of the city's outdoor monuments.

Among the monuments to be covered by scaffolding are the triumphal arch o fConstantine, built beside the Colosseum in the fourth century AD, the Emperor Trajan's column in the Imperial Forum and the arches of Titus and Seotimus Severus in the Roman Forum.

"These monuments will not be seen for several years. We cannot say right now how long these protective measures will have to continue", he said, adding that scientific studies were under way to find a way of safeguarding the monuments without scaffolding that hides them from public view.

The measures outlined by the professor came six months after his department ordered the famous equestrian statue of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius on Capitol Hill to be moved to an enclosed museum

The decision to erect protective scaffolding around the city's main ancient monuments came after 12 months of scientific study. He said the condition of the monuments had become so precarious that "now it only takes a shower to wash away the crumbling marble".—UPI.

French MPs question right of Cabinet to silence them

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 20

In the usual mad rush to finish all pending business before the end of the session, the French National Assembly has despatched the Bill making the law on abortion definitive and tightening up the conditions of its enforcement.

Between now and Saturday, it will vote on two motions of censure tabled by the Opposition, one on the reform of social security contributions by pensioners, and the other against the stationing of medium-range theatre nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

For the fourth time since the beginning of the session, Mr Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, announced that the Government would resort to Articl 49 of the constitution which enables it to engage its responsibility on a Bill and thus push it through without a vote. This time the procedure will be used for the social security Bill, in view of renewed Gaullist refusal to vote for it.

The Socialist Party, for its part, has decided to file a suit in the Constitutional Council alleging that the 1980 budget, which was passed last Monday without a vote by virtue of Article 49, had been "debated and adopted on the basis of unconstitutional procedures."

M Jacques Chaban-Delmas, the President of the National Assembly, in his end of session speech delivered yesterday, said he would himself submit the matter of the budget discussion, which had proceeded on the basis of his interim ruling, to the Constitutional Council for clarification.

On the other hand, he strongly criticized habitual resort to Article 49.

The motion of censure against the stationing of medium range missiles in Europe, was tabled by the Communists alone. The Socialists have refused to be associated with what they regard as a one-sided attack on the United States, and announced they would not vote for the censure.

New move to free Herr Hess

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Dec 20

Dr Alfred Seidl, the Munich lawyer acting for Herr Rudolf Hess, former deputy to Hitler and last inmate of Spandau prison, has taken legal action to ensure that the Bonn Government takes the case of his client to the International Court in The Hague. He filed a motion to that effect with the Federal Administration Court in Berlin.

Dr Seidl told me today that this was the court of last instance after previous attempts to have the matter taken before the United Nations and the European Court in Strasbourg failed.

He said that the Bonn Government, which like the three Western allies is in favour of releasing Herr Hess, who is 85, should not only base its demands for his release on humanitarian, but on legal grounds as well.

Dr Seidl pointed out that Herr Hess was not convicted of war crimes or crimes against humanity by the Nuremberg Tribunal, but for cooperating in the preparation of an aggressive war, an offence unknown in international law.

Dr Seidl said he expected that the court hearing would take place in January. In previous hearings the courts have granted the Bonn Government discretion on which grounds to plead for the release of Herr Hess. This time, Dr Seidl hopes that the court will decide that the Government should argue for release on legal as well as humanitarian grounds.

Herr Hess believes he has a good chance of being released. This is apparently the reason why he has so far refused to agree to an urgent prostate operation; he does not want to undergo it as a prisoner.

Dunlop workers protest to British Consul

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Dec 20

Hundreds of employees of the Dunlop tyre factory in Bilbao occupied the British Consulate there for three hours today and did not leave until Consular officials called the police.

The workers, numbering "several hundred" according to Mr Colum Sharkey, the Consul, crowded into the reception area of the eighth-floor offices, and jammed the hall and stairway outside the door, while others waited on the street below. They demanded to see a Consular official and said they would not leave unless he agreed to complain to the Spanish authorities on their behalf.

Mr Sharkey told them that he would receive a small delegation provided the occupation of the premises ceased. They accepted his proposal, but only after police were called in. The occupation lasted from about 10.30 am to 1.30 pm.

The incident was part of a campaign by Dunlop workers in the Basque city to attract attention to threatened lay-offs.

Mr Sharkey said he told the delegation that he would inform the British Embassy in Madrid.

From on high

Rome, Dec 20.—Vatican Radio resumed broadcasting today after being knocked off the air for 18 hours by a bolt of lightning that struck its main medium wave transmitting aerial.

Dispute could starve EEC energy research programme

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Dec 20

The future of the EEC's thermonuclear fusion research, which aims to harness the sun's energy to generate electricity, was thrown into the balance here today because of a dispute between France and the Community.

If the dispute is not resolved the EEC's joint European Torus project at the Culham Laboratory of Britain's Atomic Energy Authority could run out of money by the middle of next year.

The dispute arose at a meeting here of EEC Ministers responsible for scientific research. France refused to approve the spending of £33m over the next four years on the super-Sara experiment at Ispra in Northern Italy designed to simulate the effects of loss of coolant on a pressureized water reactor.

The French argued that research they are doing on melt-down accidents will produce quicker and better results than the super-Sara project, and they saw no point in this work being duplicated.

The British also had doubts initially, but were prepared to let the project through to remove the threat to the fusion project at Culham to which they attach overriding importance.

OVERSEAS

Advance party of British troops arrives in Salisbury ready to monitor ceasefire agreement

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Dec 20

The first contingent of British troops, members of the 1,200-man Commonwealth force which will monitor the ceasefire in Southern Rhodesia, arrived in Salisbury this afternoon. The group of about 100, heavily sprinkled with lieutenant-colonels and majors, arrived in a Royal Air Force VC10 by way of Cyprus and Nairobi.

They were the advance party for the main monitoring force which will start to arrive here as soon as the ceasefire agreement has been signed in London tomorrow.

Several RAF Hercules transport aircraft have already brought in the first loads of communications equipment. Tomorrow, American Galaxy and Starlifter aircraft, provided by the United States, will start flying in Puma and Gazelle helicopters, Land-Rovers, and other vehicles which will be used to deploy the monitoring force around the country.

The mediatory nature of their role during the next three months was symbolized by the pistols which some had strapped to their hips. For most this will be the only weapon they will carry while they are out in the bush trying to ensure that Rhodesian security forces and the Patriotic Front guerrillas do not re-engage in battle.

The troops, blinking in the bright sun and looking rather pale-faced compared with the tanned Rhodesian soldiers who observed their arrival, were immediately ushered into a blue and white striped marquee where they were given malaria tablets, a briefing and hotel allocations. They also had to complete Rhodesian immigration formalities.

As if deliberately cocking a snook at the British force, minutes before the VC10 touched down a sanctions-busting "Air Cargo Oman" with Arabic markings took off from Salisbury airport.

A further ironic touch was added by the arrival of an oil tanker belonging to BP-Shell to refuel the VC10. They are two of the companies mentioned in the now discarded Bingham Report on sanctions breaking by oil companies.

As from tomorrow the airlift of troops and equipment will begin in earnest. It is estimated that at one phase during the airlift a military aircraft will be arriving at Salisbury airport every 90 minutes.

The aim is to have the whole of the ceasefire force deployed to the 40 security force company bases and 16 guerrilla assembly areas by December 28, which is known as "Ceasefire Day". A week later, on January 4, the ceasefire officially comes into effect when it is hoped that the guns of both sides will finally fall silent.

In terms of the ceasefire agreement all military movements across Rhodesia's borders, either by the Patriotic Front or the security forces, will halt. From tomorrow, between the signing ceremony and December 28 the security forces will be withdrawn to "within the proximity of their company bases" and both sides will engage in defensive operations only. Between December 28 and January 4 the guerrillas will congregate in their assembly areas.

After January 4 all the Patriotic Front and Rhodesia security forces will be "lawful forces under the Governor's authority". Any other forces existing in the territory will be deemed to be "unlawful" and the Governor is empowered to take whatever action is necessary to neutralize them.

To do this, or to deal with any major breaches of the ceasefire which the police are unable to control, Lord Soames, the Governor, can call on either the Rhodesian or Patriotic Front armies.

British sources today made it clear that any armed guerrillas who had not gathered in an assembly area by January 4 would "be at risk". The British are adamant that there is no way the January 4 ceasefire deadline can be postponed if it proves impossible for all the guerrillas to have gathered in the assembly areas by then.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the co-leader of the Patriotic Front, has argued that it could take six to seven weeks to get all his forces to these areas.

Shortly before the arrival of the British troops, Bishop Muzorewa and a delegation representing the former Salisbury Government, left for London to take part in tomorrow's signing ceremony. He told an airport press conference that he would come back with victory, "a victory to achieve peace".

He added that his government had defeated the ideology of racialism, removed the scourge of sanctions and allowed Rhodesia to resume its proper place in the international community.

Today Lord Soames continued his familiarization meetings with political leaders and also paid a swift visit to Harare, one of Salisbury's best-known black townships. Tomorrow evening he is to make a major televised address to the nation in which he is expected to announce a number of changes and reforms he will put into effect following the signing of the ceasefire agreement.

Principal among these will be the lifting of the ban on the Patriotic Front.

On the last day of the war Combined Operations Headquertrs announced deaths in action of five members of the security forces and 27 guerrillas.

France decides to lift sanctions on Rhodesia

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 20

France has decided to lift economic sanctions on Southern Rhodesia which it imposed in 1968.

The Elysée palace announced today.

The decision was taken at yesterday's meeting of the Council of Ministers but will be formally announced only after the United Nations Security Council, which is meeting tonight, has taken a stand on resolutions to the same effect introduced by Norway and Portugal.

However, the French Government considers that the circumstances which justified the adoption of sanctions against Rhodesia "no longer obtain."

The French decision comes after a clear expression of support for the Lancaster House agreement and of hope that all the parties to it would apply it strictly and loyally, "thus enabling Rhodesia-Zimbabwe to accede in coming months to a true and internationally recognized independence."

There is reason to believe that the announcement of the lifting of sanctions by France will be made even if the Soviet Union should veto a decision to that effect by the Security Council. France hopes, however, for an agreement to end sanctions.

Although the Rhodesian problem has taken a poor second place in the preoccupations of French public and political opinion, this is not the case with the Government. But it was felt in Paris that Rhodesia was first and foremost a British responsibility; and that public expressions of support, especially while the Lancaster House talks were under way, would be more of a hindrance than a help.

That said, the French Government has from the start wished for the success of the London talks. At the last Franco-British summit in London a month ago, M Jean François-Poncet, the Foreign Minister, in talks with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, offered any assistance that Britain might require.

This was acknowledged with gratitude. The Foreign Secretary said that after what he hoped was the signing of an agreement, the British Government would be very interested in anything France might do in its relations with French-speaking countries of Africa to ensure the agreement's application.

The French Government has noted with satisfaction that several of the French-speaking countries of Africa—notably Morocco, the Ivory Coast, and Senegal—have in the course of the United Nations General Assembly debate last week voiced support for withdrawal of sanctions. French diplomacy can be expected to display activity from now on in persuading others to adopt the same stand.

Whatever the irritation and unpleasantness introduced in Franco-British relations by the controversy over Britain's contribution to the Community budget, mutton, fish and oil—to mention only a few bones of contention—the London agreement has, in the eyes of the French Government, given an additional fillip to Mrs Margaret Thatcher's reputation in France for courage and determination; and to Lord Carrington's for his seemingly effortless diplomatic skill and ability to round off rough corners.

If the Dublin summit was not a success, it was perhaps because the Foreign Secretary had been too busy with Rhodesia.

The much awaited debate in the National Assembly on French policy in Africa, demanded by the Gaullists and the left, opened today with a categoric statement by M François-Poncet that "France does not pursue in Africa any hegemonic aims of any kind or in any form. There is no intervention by France in the internal affairs of the African states."

MPs renew protests at inquiry refusal

By George Clark,
Political Correspondent

Protests were renewed in the Commons yesterday over the Government's announcement that there are to be no prosecutions and no further inquiries into breaches of Rhodesian oil sanctions from 1969 onwards.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, tackled the Prime Minister yesterday on what he regarded as the obligation imposed by the Commons resolution of February 1 to hold an inquiry into allegations of sanctions-breaking. The inquiry was to be carried out by a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament.

Mrs Thatcher replied firmly: "It is not our intention to go ahead with any further inquiry. We believe now, on the eve of the signing of a Rhodesian ceasefire, that it is a time for reconciliation."

Her words were greeted with loud and angry protests from the Labour and Liberal benches.

When Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Leader of the House, was answering business questions, Mr Steel said that, if a Government decided to overturn a Commons decision, it should make a clear statement to the House and be subject to cross-examination.

Mr St John-Stevas did not agree. "It is clear constitutional doctrine that no Parliament can bind its successor Parliament", he said. "We feel that no good is to be served by raking over those almost dead coals."

Mr Peter Shore, Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, said: "What is at stake is the general question of our public position in the rest of the world; whether we do in fact mean what we say; and our reputation for fair dealing".

Mr St John-Stevas replied: "It is Mr Shore's opinion that an inquiry would be useful. It is not our opinion. We believe it is unnecessary and untimely.

German bishops defend ban on Swiss theologian

In this statement, the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of Germany describes in detail its relationship with Professor Hans Küng and the causes of the Church's rupture with him.

1. In a declaration dated December 15, 1979, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith stated: In his writings Professor Küng deviates from the complete truth of the Catholic belief. For this reason he cannot be regarded as a Catholic theologian nor teach as such. Accordingly, the competent diocesan bishop, Mgr Georg Moser, will inform the Science Minister of the federal *Land* of Baden-Wurttemberg that the conditions for the *nihil obstat* are no longer fulfilled and that Professor Küng will be deprived of his *missio canonica* accorded to him at his nomination to the University of Tübingen 19 years ago. Thus the unavoidable consequences have been drawn after nearly 10 years of efforts to clarify theological fundamentals that are doubted by Professor Küng. The German Bishop's Conference regrets the need for this painful decision. It absolutely supports the decision of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the resulting measures of Bishop Moser. Considering the overall development there was no other way out.

2. The main reason for the congregation's decision lies in Professor Küng's doctrine about infallibility in the Church. All Christian churches and communities teach the indestructibility of the Church of Jesus Christ, which is mainly based on the undeviating strength and the firm certainty of the Word of God. Although the Church's belief has to be constantly re-thought, and this process will remain uncompleted until the end of history, it includes a binding "Yes" and an unequivocal "No". Otherwise it is not possible for the Church to stay in the truth. Furthermore the Catholic Church is convinced that the Church as a whole and in its own special way its ministry (episcopate, council, Pope) is endowed with the Holy Spirit's gift to preserve and to interpret unmistakably the once given word of God in the strength of its particular truth. Therefore certain statements of faith are part of the Church's hold on the truth. These have a different degree of binding power. Statements of faith which serve to interpret the testimony of the Scriptures and are expressed with ultimate binding force by the Church are "dogma" in the proper sense. Vatican I (1870) dogmatized the infallibility of pronouncements by the Pope and at the same time described the conditions for that kind of authoritative speaking emerging from the tradition of the Church. Vatican II has complemented and confirmed this doctrine.

In this book *Unfehlbar?—Eine Anfrage* (Zurich, 1970), as well as in other writings, Professor Kung has curtailed this doctrine when he expressed his belief in the Church's basic hold on the truth, which would, however be compatible with factual errors in these decisions of faith which the Church's ministry has declared to be irreversible. The Church's hold on truth remaining "despite possible errors". The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith regards this asa reduction of the Church's endowement of infallibility and a violation of radical obscuring of the dogma of 1879. Lately, Professor Kung even took up the idea of a "revision of the decisions of Vatican I".

The dogma of infallibility in the the Church may at first be regarded as a phenomenon marginal to the whole corpus of the faith, but in reality it includes fundamental problems such as the knowledge of truth, interpretation of revelation, its linguistic form and its tradition, the certainty of faith, and the justification for the official authority of the Church. Errors in this domain, which serves true knowledge of the divine revelation, are prejudicial to faith.

In essential questions Professor Küng's theological method, a dangerous restriction, as has been repeatedly pointed out, leads to a rupture with the Catholic tradition of faith and teaching. This becomes obvious mainly in Professor Küng's statements about the person of Jesus Christ. In the central question of Christology, whether Jesus Christ really is God's Son, i.e., whether Jesus holds undiminished the position and state of being of God, Professor Küng has evaded a decisive and binding confession despite all efforts to clear this up. From the earliest times Christians confess: "We believe . . . in the one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father" (thus in the Nicene Creed 325). This brings about consequences for our salvation: If God did not offer himself for the people in the person of Jesus Christ, then the vital part of the Christian revelation perishes. All pronouncement even those on the human nature of Jesus, are of real importance for Christian belief only they are intimately coupled with the true divinity of Jesus Christ.

Professor Küng, indeed, generally affirms that he wants to preserve and to enhance the elements of the dogmas of Christology. Nevertheless, in fact he obscures and reduces what they clearly say. Fundamental lack of clarity about the mystery of the person of Jesus Christ not only threatens the centre of Catholic belief, but also that of the Christian belief in general.

These insufficiencies have contributed to a worrying insecurity in belief. But even today, the faithful have the right to a complete and clear representation of the truths of faith. The teaching and pastoral ministry of the Church have to take care of this.

3. Already in 1957 after the publication of his boow *Die Kirche* (Freiburg/Breisgau, 1967) the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith reminded Professor Küng of the apprehension of the Church. On April 30, 1968, it informed Professor Küng that it had studied his book. At the same time the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith invited Professor Küng to a colloquy. Although he in general agreed to take part, such a colloquy never took place despite repeated invitations. After the publication of *Unfehlbar? — Eine Anfrage* (1970) the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith took proceedings on doctrinal matters against some doctrines expressed in this book and it asked Professor Kung to answer questions addressed to him by the Congregation. The voluminous correspondence did not bring about an answer satisfying to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Thereupon the Congregation, which is entrusted with the protection and promotion of faith in the whole Church, published on July 6, 1973, the declaration *Mysterium Ecclesiae* in which the doctrine of the Tübingen professor was rejected.

Referring to the declaration *Mysterium Ecclesiae* the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith informed Professor Küng by letter of the possibility to a colloquy regarding the two proceedings on doctrinal matters. If Professor Küng recognized the doctrine expressed in *Mysterium Ecclesiae*, the pending proceedings on the two books would be settled. In spite of all efforts, even on the part of Cardinal Döpfner, the colloquy proposed by Rome to clear up the affair did not take place. On September 4, 1974, Professor Küng assured the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith by letter of his intention to make use of the "time for reflection" granted to him and of the possibility that his "doctrine" in the course of time may "assimilate" to the official teaching. In a declaration dated February 15, 1975, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith thereupon administered "according to the instructions of Pope Paul VI the exhortation *for the moment* not to continue to propagate such doctrines". The proceedings of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith "on this affair were declared completed *for the moment*". In an accompanying declaration dated February 17, 1975, the German Bishops' Conference reminded Professor Küng of principles belonging to the basic understanding of Catholic theology, which have not been sufficiently safeguarded in some of his theological writings. This also applied to the doctrine about the person of Jesus Christ expressed in Professor Küng's book *Christ sein* (Munich, 1974). When many efforts to get amplification from Professor Küng failed (see also the Stuttgart colloquy of January 22, 1977, which lasted for many hours), the German Bishops' Conference on November 17, 1977, published a declaration on the book *Christ sein*. At the same time the correspondence referring to this was published. Professor Küng's further promise to clear up the points objected to in his latest book *Existiert Gott?* (Munich, 1978) has again not been fulfilled.

Despite the exhortation of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith dated February 15, 1975, Professor Küng in spring 1979 not only repeated his doctrine about infallability in the Church but expressed it even more sharply (see *Kirchegehalten in der Wahrheit?*—theological meditations 51, Zurich 1979: Preface *Der neue Stand der Unfehlbarkeitsdebatte* to A. B. Hasler, How the Pope became infallible. Power and powerlessness of a dogma. Munich 1979, XIII-XXXVIII). In its decision of December 15, 1979, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith refers to this flagrant violation of the conditions for the provisional stay of proceedings on doctrinal matters in February, 1975.

4. The decision that has been taken can only be understood in the light of almost 10 years of discussion and controversy. The representatives of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in Rome, the presidents of the German Bishops' Conference and its commission of faith, especially Cardinal Julius Döpfner and Cardinal Hermann Volk, as well as the competent Bishop of Rottenburg, Mgr Georg Moser, in many letters, in personal conversations and many initiatives tried to clear up the situation. Thereby they conferred an important role on this theological dialogue. During these 10 years Professor Küng has neither accepted the repeated invitations of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith nor has he sufficiently answered the questions addressed to him by it and the German Bishops' Conference. The temporary stay of the proceedings on doctrinal matters and the administering of the exhortation in 1975 represented a substantial concession and a new attempt to overcome the conflict. In an attitude of unexampled intransigence and rare unconvincibility—this is true despite affirmations of readiness for a discussion on his part—he was not willing to change his mind neither by extended theological discussion nor by the initiatives of the Church authorities for an amplification, a modification or revision of his doctrines. His sometimes unrestrained attacks on the Church's discipline and order belong in the same context.

5. For this reason the decision taken by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has become unavoidable. The German Bishops' Conference regrets the failure of so many efforts to find an other solution. During recent years, the Church's ministry has often been blamed for its toleration of such divergent doctrines, while taking a strong line for example towards Archbishop Lefèbure and his adherents.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the German Bishops' Conference, as well as the Bishop of Rottenburg, have left no room for doubt that they will not ignore their duty to protect the belief of the Church. The members of the Church for their part have a right to an authentic preaching and to certainty in faith (not to be confused with false security) which are made possible by the doctrine authority of the Church and therefore also by the infallibility given by the Spirit of God. To engage oneself for this conviction signifies the maintenance of the identity of the Catholic Church. The latter, however, is a condition for a real ecumenical dialogue and for the fulfilment of the Church's tasks in society.

The German Bishops' Conference asks the faithful of the Catholic Church, the other Christians and all people, who are interested in the life of the Church, to see and judge the decision of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith against this background. The church's ministry will not allow itself to be deterred by this disappointing event from searching even in the future for a solution to clear up controversial theological opinions with the help of an open dialogue.

6. By the deprivation of the canonical commission Professor Küng loses his licence to teach Catholic theology in the name of the Church and as lecturer recognized by the Church. He is not excluded from the Church and remains a priest.

Cologne, December 18, 1979
Cardinal Joseph Höffner
President of the German Bishops' Conference

Iran judge wants hostages freed

Continued from page 1

when listening to questions.

How did he personally feel when he sentenced a man to death? "I feel that I am doing my duty and what I am required to do by the Iranian people. That is why I have never been criticized by my people for these executions."

But did he not refuse to give Mr Hoveida and General Nematollah Nassiri, the former head of the Savak Secret Police, any right to appeal against the death sentence?

"They did appeal," he replied, "and they asked the Imam (Ayatollah Khomeini) and the court to forgive them. Many people came to me and asked me to forgive these people. But I was responsible to the Iranian nation and to God. I could not forgive Hoveida and Nassiri. They destroyed the lives of 50,000 people."

He said today that he had already ordered a commando squad to go to Panama to kill the Shah and his family. "I do not know if they have left Iran yet," he said, then broke into that familiar chuckle as he ventured into Spanish. "They all have *pistolas*."

Since the murder of the Shah's nephew in Paris almost two weeks ago, European and American police forces have paid a good deal of attention to the threats of Ayatollah Khalkhali. Interpol—and the Ayatollah's intended victims—would therefore probably pay some attention to the names which Judge Khalkhali included in his assassination list today.

"Since the most important agents of the former regime are no longer present in this country", he said, "I have to look for other work. But we are looking for some of these people. We are looking for Sharif Emami (former prime minister), General Palizban, Hushang Ansari (former minister of finance), Ardeshir Zahedi (former ambassador in Washington), Gholamali Oveisi (former martial law administrator), Gharabaghi (former chief of staff in the Shah's Army), Farah (the Empress), Hojjeb Yazdani (former banker), Vafian (former minister of agriculture), Jamshid Amouzegar (former prime minister) and Shapour Bakhtiar (former prime minister). We also want the Shah and his brother and Ashraf (the Shah's twin sister). Wherever we can find these people, we will kill them".

Unashamed at publicly naming his own "hit list", the Ayatollah takes an unexpectedly moderate attitude towards the 50 American Embassy staff held hostage in Tehran.

"I regard these people as innocent," he said without hesitation. "They are our guests. I want them to be released and go back to their homes. Even if they are spies, that is not enough reason to keep them. Every embassy has spies in it. We cannot execute any spies according to Islamic laws. They will only be executed if they are directly responsible for ordering a murder. Even if we try the hostages, we do not want to condemn them. We want to condemn Carter and the American Government."

Does Ayatollah Khalkhali regard himself as "the wrath of God"? "I grew up in poverty and therefore I can understand poor people", he said. "I know all about the previous regime. I have read books about politics. The Imam ordered me to be the Islamic judge and I have done the job perfectly. That is why none of the Shah's agents in Iran has escaped my hands".

There is no proof that such an assertion is factually correct. But Ayatollah Khalkhali is not the kind of man whom one wants to contradict.

Baluchi battle: Two people were reported killed and more than 30 injured in a gun battle which broke out in Zahedan, capital of the Iranian province of Baluchistan this morning.

The disturbance comes less than two weeks after five people were killed in the Turkish-speaking Azerbaijan province during protests over the constitution.

OVERSEAS

Ownership of W H Auden poetry manuscripts, notebooks and diary disputed in New York trial

From Michael Leapman
New York, Dec 20

A trial concerning the ownership of a valuable batch of W. H. Auden's poetry manuscripts and notebooks ended here yesterday after a week of hearings appropriately spiced with literary allusions. The dispute is between the New York Public Library and a retired dentist who will be 87 next month.

The case was heard at the surrogates' court, where legal issues concerning bequests are adjudicated. The two sides will put in their final submissions by the end of next month to Mr Millard Midonick, the surrogate, who will probably give his verdict in February.

The papers estimated to be worth about £160,000, were bequeathed by Auden to Mr Chester Kallman, a less successful poet who was Auden's lover for 30 years. After Auden's death in 1973, the papers were deposited in the New York Public Library's Berg Collection of literary manuscripts.

Mr Kallman had wanted to donate the papers to the library but the contested point is whether the gift had been properly completed before Kallman himself died in 1975 at the age of 53. Dr Edward Kallman, his father, is claiming the papers as his next of kin, since in his will Kallman left everything to Auden, who was already dead.

Dr Kallman's lawyers said that among the most important of his son's motives in making the gift to the library would have been the tax concession which he would thereby have gained. Since he was now dead that was no longer an applicable factor.

Lawyers for the library argued that the motive was not financial. They produced witnesses who said that Auden disapproved strongly of selling the private papers of literary figures and that Kallman had shared his view.

The most important such witness was Professor Edward Mendelson of Columbia University, Auden's literary executor, who was the link man between Kallman and the library for the deposit of the papers. On the witness stand Dr Mendelson read out an Auden poem published in 1972, decrying the age in which "the public will shell out more cash for notebooks and sketches that were never intended for them than for perfected works".

Mr Midonick, the surrogate, caught the literary mood. During a discussion on the long-term value of Auden's royalties, which were incontestably bequeathed to Kallman, he said: "Many centuries ago, some critic asserted that the poet Wordsworth, whom I've forgotten myself, would be remembered long after Milton is forgotten, but not until Milton is forgotten."

After this cryptic remark, Mr Robert Zicklin, the lawyer representing Dr Kallman, brought things to earth by remarking: "The poetry business is unpredictable for income."

On the witness stand Dr Lola Szladits of the Public Library, Curator of the Berg Collection, called the Auden papers one of the most important collections she had ever seen. They include a 1929 diary, some original manuscripts and typescripts of unpublished poems and 50 photographs. They are not especially voluminous since they can be fitted into a suitcase.

Mr Michael Yates, a retired television designer, of Gunterstone Road, London, W14, flew from England with his wife Margaret to give evidence. They said that they had heard Kallman state his intention of giving the papers to the library.

Some of the most important documents in the collection were in Auden's house in Kirchstetten, Austria when he died. Kallman took them from there to London, where they were stored with other of his papers at the offices of Faber and Faber, Auden's publishers.

Dr Mendelson had them removed from London to New York Public Library where, because of the litigation, they are not at present available to researchers. If Dr Kallman wins his case, his lawyers said, he will probably sell the papers to a Texas university.

Observers, who have followed the proceedings from the beginning, say that the most likely outcome is for Mr Midonick to let the New York Public Library keep the papers, but to find a way of assuring to Dr Kallman the tax concessions his son would have enjoyed had he lived to make the gift.

The surrogates' court in which the week's proceedings took place is the most flamboyant of the many *Beaux Arts* public buildings erected in New York around the turn of the century. The hearing room, ridiculously large for the half dozen people who were usually present, is panelled in intricately carved mahogany, with elaborate pink fireplaces at each end.

A pair of ornamental wooden stairs lead to a balcony in the form of a minstrels' gallery. Lighting is by three tremendous crystal chandeliers resembling inverted dahlias.

The ambiance of the surroundings and the comparatively benign nature of the proceedings combined to produce a pleasanter atmosphere than is normal in American courtrooms. At the close of the hearing Mr Midonick complimented both lawyers on their skill in presenting their cases and concluded: "Thank you very much. I enjoyed it."

Sister of the Shah may abandon new US home

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Dec 20

Princess Shams, the ldest sister of the deposed Shah of Iran, this week purchased a new home for $1.5m (£680,000) in the exclusive beach community of Santa Barbara. But a spokesman for the Princess indicated that she may not move into the walled estate because of the publicity about the purchase.

According to legal documents filed in Santa Barbara, about 0 miles from Los Angeles, the house was once part of a 54-acre estate owned by the Armour meat packing family. The house, with about 6.5 acres, was bought by Mr Byron Hayes, a Los Angeles lawyer, then transferred to another party, believed to be a fictitious name designed to hide the Princess's interest.

After reports of the purchase in *The Los Angeles Times* and a front page picture in the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* of the 18-room house behind locked iron gates, the spokesman for the Princess said:

"It is well known that the Princess was distressed by the publicity and events that surrounded her home in Beverley Hills last year. For that reason she has been seeking a less expensive home where she and her family could live in seclusion."

In January a mobb of about 500 Iranian students stormed the Princesss' house in Beverley Hills, smashing windows and starting fires. The Princess fled before the incident, which led to dozens of arrests.

The Princess's spokesman added: "The unfortunate publicity surrounding the purchase of the Santa Barbara residence could influence the Princess's decision as to whether or not she and her family will ever occupy the home."

The Los Angeles Times reported today in a front page story that when the Shah left Mexico for medical treatment in the United States he was given a written assurance by President José Lopez Portillo that he would be welcome back

"Your home is always Mexico", Portillo said in a message to the White House in a secret State Department cable at the time.

"This is your country", he added. "You are always welcome . . . You can live anywhere in Mexico . . . We will give you security and asylum."

Israeli soldiers on watch outside the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem

UN voting marathon adjourns in deadlock

From Michael Leapman
New York, Dec 20

After a record 124 votes, the United Nations General Assembly has still not decided whether Cuba or Colombia will fill the Latin American seat in the Security Council on January 1.

Last night, after 12 votes in which neither country attained the necessary two-thirds majority, delegates stopped voting for Christmas and will come back on Boxing Day to try again.

The number of votes needed varies slightly with each ballot because the requirement is for two-thirds of those actually voting and not of all the Assembly's 152 members. The target figure is generally in the high 90s and the nearest the Cubans have come to winning is with 95—four short of what they needed.

Cuba, with the support of the Soviet Union block and most of the developing countries, has led consistently since voting began early last month. But the Colombians, vigourously backed by the United States, have worked hard to sustain their just adequate body of supporters.

The previous record number of ballots was 52 in another left-right clash in 1959, when Poland and Turkey were the contenders. On that occasion they agreed to split the two-year term, with Poland serving the first year and Turkey the second.

Colombia suggested a similar compromise after the first 60 ballots or so, but the Cubans rejected it, confident of the ultimate victory. It is possible, however, that Mr Salim Salim, of Tanzania the President of the General Assembly will seek to revive the proposal if the voting on December 26 proves inconclusive.

Mr Salim is one of the many parties for whom much is at stake in the normally routine electoral process which has this year turned into a fierce ideolngical battle. He is one of the favourites to succeed Dr Kurt Waldheim the Secretary-General whose term expires in 1981 and he knows that if he brings this dispute to a successful conclusion it will be a mark in his favour.

It would be possible to run the Security Council with 14 instead of the usual 15 members but it has never been done before and Mr Salim would regard such an outcome as a defeat.

Soviet Baptists urged to oppose Nato weapons plan

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Dec 20

Soviet Baptists today ended a three-day congress in Moscow at which they heard strong appeals for a halt to Nato's plans to deploy nuclear missiles in Europe and an optimistic report on the state of Baptist communities in the Soviet Union.

The meeting in the central Baptist prayer house in Moscow was the forty-second joint congress of the Union of Evangelical Christians, a predominantly Baptist body but which also includes Mennonites and representatives from Methodist and Pentecostal churches.

It was attended by 525 delegates and baptists from overseas. The visitors included the Rev Dr David Russel, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, the Rev Robert Dennis, general secretary of the World Baptist Union, the Rev Gerhard Klass of the European Baptist Federation and representatives from the United States and Eastern Europe.

A strong call was made on the opening day for Soviet Baptists to oppose the modernization of Nato's theatre nuclear forces. Metropolitan Juvenali, representing the Russian Orthodox Church, said Christians supported peace and disarmament and appealed to European leaders to adopt a constructive approach to Detente in Europe.

Baptists are among the most vigorous of the religious groups in the Soviet Union and have grown rapidly in numbers in parallel with religious toleration in recent years.

There are now about 500,000, with nearly half the membership in the Ukraine. There are also communities in Russia, Byelorussia and the Baltic republics, especially Estonia. There are plans to open the first full-time residential seminary in Moscow soon, for the training of pastors.

QC among 5 arrested by Czech police

Prague, Dec 20.—Mr John Platts-Mills, QC, was among five people arrested by Czechoslovak police today while trying to attend the appeal hearing here for six convicted dissidents.

An Austrian lawyer representing Amnesty International was in the group.

Mr Platts-Mills was taken to Prague police headquarters where two of the three other detainees arrested earlier today, were being held. They were Mme Elisabth Guyot, a French lawyer, and M Jean-Jacques Marie of the Paris-based Czechoslovak emigré magazine *Listy*.

The fifth person arrested was Mr Julius Tomin, husband of an official of the Charter 77 human rights group.

M Marie said he wanter to cover the trial for his magazine described in the original trial of the dissidents as "CIA backed and financed". Mme Guyot wanted to represent French lawyers.

The six dissidents, members of the Committee for Persons Iniustly Charged (Vons), an offshoot of Charter 77, include Petr Uhl, sentenced to five years in prison; Vaclav Havel, four years; Vaclac Benda, four years; Jiri Dienstbier, three years; Otta Bednarova, three yetrs, and Dana Nemcova who received a suspended two-year sentence.

The six were charged with trying to bring disrepute to Czechoslovakia abroad.

Mr Tomin signed the Charter 77 declaration establishing a group in 1977 to monitor Czech violations of the 1975 Helsinki accords.

Before the arrests, foreign diplomats, journalists and others gathered at the Prague Pankrac palace of justice to try to attend the proceedings. Police recorded their identities but then refused to allow them inside, saying the room was too small.

A diplomatic source said the appeal had not been formally announced in advance. it started behind closed doors this morning and was expected to last for a day. "No one, that is diplomats, press or Czechs who gatherer before the court house, was able to get into the court room apparently", the source added.—Agence French Presse, UPI.

Phnom Penh 'is distributing aid to Kampucheans'

By Roger Berthoud

Miss Kathleen Bagen of the Catholic Association for Overseas Development, has returned from eight days in Kampuchea convinced that the Phnom Penh government is making every effort to distribute Western aid, contrary to some press suggestions.

Inevitably there was some stockpiling in the port of Kampong Som and in Phnom Penh itself. "But to the best of their ability they are really getting it out", she said in London yesterday.

She based this view on the number of convoys she and her colleagues saw on provincial roads, the number of barges on rivers, and the constant flow of carries out of Kampong Som and Phnom Penh.

Mr Hun Sen, the Kampuchean Foreign Minister, asked her to convey his people's thanks for "your precious aid".

On a visit to Takeo province, Miss Bagen was told by the administrator that the province's population, well over one million before the Pol Pot regime took over was now estimated at 80,000. So far 108,776 bodies had been found. Miss Bagen has shown some mass graves holding between 200 and 2,000 bodies.

She said she saw no starvation but a lot of malnutrition, malaria and dysentery.

"No Evidence": Mr Brian Walker, Director General of Oxfam, said yesterday, according to the Press Association, "We have no evidence whatsoever to support the allegations of Vietnamese atrocities, thefts of aid supplies, of diversions of Kampuchean aid into Vietnam.

Hanoi refuses to receive emissary of Asean

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, Dec 20

Vietnam's refusal to receive Tunku Ahmad Rithauddeen, the Malaysian Foreign minister, as an emissary of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) is expected to lead to a modification of the alliance's policy on Kampuchea, Thai officials said here today.

At a meeting last week, Asean foreign ministers decided that the Tunku, while making a planned visit to Hanoi next month, should also make Asean's first diplomatic approach to Vietnam in an effort to end the fighting in Kampuchea.

Vietnam has indicated that it will still welcome the Malaysian Foreign Minister as arranged, but not as an Asean emissary. Asean had decided on the joint approach in response to Hanoi's request for a dialogue on Kampuchea.

Vietnam's rebuff is thought to be the result of Asean's prominent role at the United Nations in organizing worldwide condemnation of Vietnam's intervention in Kampuchea.

Asean diplomats believe the rebuff will strengthen doubts—particularly in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines—about their Kampuchean policies and continued recognition of the ousted Pol Pot regime. Even Singapore, which has been most vocal in its condemnation of Vietnam, seems to have second thoughts.

"We have our reservations about Pol Pot", one minister said after the Asean foreign ministers' meeting last week.

In Thailand, Foreign Ministry officials are restating doubts originally expressed months ago, when they said the Thai Government would have preferred to keep Kampuchea's United Nations seat empty rather than see it occupied by a Pol Pot representative.

Thai soldiers clashed with Vietnamese troops when they crossed into Thailand yesterday, the Supreme Command said in Bangkok today. The Vietnamese retreated when mortar and small arms fire was directed at them.

Kampuchean refugees who have just reached the Khao I Dang camp, eight miles from the border, are giving more details of the manner in which Vietnamese soldiers and civilians have taken over Kampuchea's economy.

They claim that soldiers and civilians accompanied by their families have moved into many areas of the country where they are growing food, running local markets and shipping food, livestock and other goods back to Vietnam.

Mr Tray Lim Por, who lived for nine months under Vietnamese control in Phnom Penh, said Vietnamese civilians and soldiers' families were living in houses in Phnom Penh and on Vietnamese boats on the Mekong river. He said he had seen them sending rice, cows, pigs to Vietnam by ship and lorry every night.

Mr Ou Ngoy, of Battrambang, not far from the Thai border, said Vietnamese came there to barter rice for cattle, pigs, chicken, even dogs, to take back to Vietnam. Another refugee said she had seen Vietnamese flying food away from Battambang, which is Kampuchea's richest food-producing area.

Missiles plan 'could upset troop talks'

Vienna, Dec 20.—The Soviet block today said the Nato decision to build medium-range missiles for deployment in Western Europe would complicate and undermine East-West negotiations on troops cuts.

While Communist governments have strongly attacked last week's Nato decision, it was the first warning that the negotiations in Vienna, which have been going on for six years, could be affected.

"If Nato maintains this position, the chance of reaching agreements of benefit to all people will be gambled away." Herr Andre Wieland, the East German chief delegate, told a news conference as the talks adjourned for six weeks.

Delegates from the Warsaw Pact did not reject new Nato proposals put forward at the talks, but sharply criticized them. They promised, however, that the West's call for symbolic United States-Soviet troop cuts as a first step would be carefully studied.

Herr Wieland hinted that the seven nations of the Warsaw Pact would examine Nato's reduction plan in the light of the Western alliance's decision to install 572 Pershing and cruise missiles in West Germany and elsewhere, giving the West the capability of hitting the Soviet Union with European based missiles for the first time.

"In examining the proposals, the socialist states will, of course, have to take into consideration the effects of Nato's armament decisions," Herr Wieland said.

The Nato nations at the talks said their plan for the withdrawal of about 13,000 United States and 30,000 Soviet troops from central Europe provided a basis for an "early positive outcome" in the negotiations.

Herr Wieland said Nato's decision to enlarge its missile force violated objectives agreed upon here in 1973.

"The decision is a direct complication for the Vienna negotiations. The agreed subject of the negotiations will be undermined", he said.

On Nato's new plan, he said: "After a first preliminary analysis, we are compelled to state that the Western participants have not made concessions to socialist states in any issue".

Herr Wieland said one Warsaw pact demand was that the forces of nine nations in central Europe should be frozen after United States-Soviet troop cuts, until a general agreement was reached.

He also caled for armaments to be reduced as well as troops. Nato has excluded armaments from its new plan.

Nato sources played down the reaction of the Warsaw Pact. They said the attack was tactical rather than a substantive evaluation.—Reuter.

Mrs Gandhi is cleared in High Court case

Delhi, Dec 20.—The Delhi High Court today cleared Mrs Indira Gandhi, the former prime minister of refusing to give evidence before the Government-appointed commission investigating alleged offences committed during her 21-month emergency rule.

In his judgment, the judge said that although Mrs Gandhi had refused to make a statement before the commission, she had not been directed to take the oath, and therefore could not be held guilty of refusing to give evidence.

Mrs Gandhi, who is campaigning for next month's general elections in Punjab, still faces two other charges, each carrying a maximum jail sentence of seven years. These relate to the illegal arrest of two people during the emergency and conspiring to obtain vehicles without payment for use in the 1977 general election.— Reuter.

Seven to die for killing President

Seoul, Dec 20.—A South Korean army court martial today sentenced seven men to death for the assassination of President Park Chung Hee. All of them, it said, committed treason against the nation and the people".

The court saved its harshest words for President Park's admitted assassin, Kim Jae Kyu, former head of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, who testified he had thought about killing the President since 1972 and finally murdered him on October 26 to restore democracy. Five of the President's bodyguards were also killed while dinner in a Korean CIA "safe house".

The five-member panel called Mr Kim, aged 53, "a traitor" who dreamed up the alibi or restoring free democracy "to try to beautify his motive" which was to take over as President.

The court first announced guilty verdicts against the seven defendants and then immediately sentenced them to death. An eighth defendant was convicted of destroying evidence and sentenced to three years in prison.

Kim Kae Won, Mr Park's secretary-general, who was seated at the same dinner table when the Korean leader was shot dead was among those sentenced to death. The other convicted men were all former agents of the Korean CIA.

Colonel Park Heung Joo, the KCIA director's aide and one of the agents who shot the presidential bodyguards after the assassination, was condemned without right of appeal since he was in active military service. The others can appeal.

The defendants sat while the verdicts were read, but stood when the presiding officer, Lieutenant General Kim Yung Sun, announced the death sentences. Mr Kim Jae-Kyu and Mr Kim Kae Won stared directly at him without visible emotion.

Afterwards relatives of the men rushed forward, shouting at them to take care of themselves, but were stopped by military police. Mr Kim Jae Kyu smiled at his sisters and others before guards led the defendants from the courtroom.

The sentences were handed down the day before the inauguration of President Choi Kyu Hah as Mr Park's successor. Mr Choi is expected to announce, in his inaugural address, a timetable for revision of the 1972 Yushin constitution, which Mr Park wrote to ensure his one-man rule, and a presidential election.

The court said Mr Kim Jae Kyu was "one of those who did his best to preserve the Yushin system".

Before sentence was passed Mr Kim Jae Kyu, thanked the court martial panel and defence lawyers. "As I leave this world, I will keep within me this deep thanks to you all", he said.
—AP, Agence France Presse, Reuter.

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Indonesia frees last prisoners held without trial

Jakarta, Dec 20. — Indonesia today released the last prisoners held without trial since the abortive communist-backed coup in 1965. The 105 political detainees, including Pramudya Ananta Tur, the novelist, were set free in the central Java capital of Semarang.

More than 500,000 people were arrested in the aftermath and about 480,000 others are officially believed to have died in massacres which took place in the confusion surrounding the attempted coup.

Most of the detainees, who were neither put on trial nor charged with any crimes, were freed fairly quickly, about 35,000 over the past five years. Reuter.

£11,000 for photograph

New York, Dec 20.—A rcord price for a photograph sold at auction has been obtained by a landscape taken about 30 years ago by Ansel Adams, the American photographer, which was sold for $22,000 (£11,000) at Sotheby Parke Bernet in New York.

Albania draws inspiration from Stalin centenary

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, Dec 20

Albania is drawing inspiration from the centenary of Stalin's birth to demonstrate its unswerving loyalty to his ideas and to question the Marxist credentials of all communist parties which have digressed from them, in particular the Soviet Union, where the centenary is muted and not officially marked.

In Albania, Stalin was never denounced or renounced. The country is the only communist state where the Stalin cult was never dismantled and where Stalin remains infallible to this day.

While communist parties the world over are living down their Stanlinist past, Albania proudly identifies itself with Stalinism and attacks all communist countries for betraying the true revolutionary path.

The centenary in Albania is a state occasion and to commemorate it the country's leader, Mr Enver Hoxha, has just published another volume with a glowing account of his meeting with Stalin. Dedicated to his memory and called: "With Stalin" it describes five meetings between 1947 and 1952, the last time he saw the Russian leader. On the occasion, according to Mr Hoxha, Stalin said: "If you have a strong party, a strong economy and Army don't fear anybody."

Contrary to the prevailing opinion Mr Hoxha speaks of Stalin as a modest and considerate man, kind to the people, "not a despot that the traitors are now making him to be", but a man of principle who waged a struggle against enemies and deviationists of all colours, who fought against "secret and open enemies to his very death".

Mr Hoxha said Stalin was a "giant" and a great revolutionary. If indeed he made some mistakes, which is what he is being accused of by the opportunists, they were only "minor ones".

The Albanians are taking the opportunity of the centenary to point once again to the danger threatening the communists if they strayed from Stalin's path. "The Albanian party had benefited from Stalin's teachings, had followed him faithfully and therefore, unlike the others, did not go wrong."

Court moves against press censorship in Lahore case

From Our Correspondent
Islamabad, Dec 20

The Lahore High Court want an assurance that proceedings brought by a political party leader will not be subjected to the general press censorship in Pakistan.

Air Marshal Asghar Khan has filed a petition against the dissolution of his political party and the cancellation of the November parliamentary elections by the martial law regime.

The court has asked the Advocate General of Punjab for the assurance against censorship.

Most of the country's newspapers were unable to give a full account of the court proceedings in Air Marshal Asghar Khan's case earlier this week. They were heavily censored.

Mr Mahmud Ali Kasuri, chief counsel for the leader of the defunct Tehrike Istiqlal, yesterday showed the court several newspapers with the account of the case wholly or partly censored, and requested that contempt of court proceedings should be started against the authorities concerned.

Mr Justice Mushtaq Husain, the Chief Justice, who heads the three-member bench, directed the Advocate General to obtain assurance from the Punjab government that the court proceedings would not be censored and ordered that precensorship of court news should stop forthwith.

The Air Marshal's petition, which also questions the validity of continuing martial law in view of the Supreme Court judgment in Begum Bhutto's constitutional petition, will now be heard on Saturday.

Fear that Seoul army struggle may benefit North Korea

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Dec 20

The Japanese Government is concerned that the emergence of rival political factions within the South Korean Army may eventually undermine the country's ability to cope with the North Korean military machine.

"We do not believe that North Korea will attempt to take advantage of the political situation at the moment," a senior official told me. "But the South Korean army is now deeply enmeshed in politics, and the events last week indicate the danger of coups and counter-coups in the army. If that happens South Korea's armed forces will be debilitated."

Japan's fears were roused when a group of conservative South Korean officers moved troops on to the streets of Seoul on December 12 and arrested General Chung Seung Hwa, the former Army Chief of Staff and Martial Law Administrator, and 16 other moderate generals and their aides.

The leader of the revolt, General Chun Too Hwan, was a supporter of the authoritarian policies of the late President Park Chung Hee.

Seven of the more moderate generals who were arrested in last week's struggle for power are under house arrest or have been released.

Those still under arrest include General Chung, Lieutenant-General Lee Kon Yung, commander of the Third Army, and Major-General Chung Byung Joo, commander of Korea's special forces.

"We are worried that if this continues the Army will split into rival factions and lose its character as a fighting machine," senior Japanese officials said.

South Korea's main ally, the United States, is also concerned over the revolt and the growing divisions within the armed forces.

The leaders of the coup moved the 9th Division from front-line reserve positions to Seoul without informing the United Nations Joint Command. Under military pacts in force, the American commander of the United Nations forces in South Korea is responsible for all troop movements.

"The Americans were not told that troops were being moved into Seoul to take part in the coup and they are extremely angry", a Western diplomat said.

The new Seoul Government claims that General Chung and his aides were arrested because new evidence has emerged to implicate them in the assassination of President Park on October 26.

But President Park's assassin, Kim Jae Kyu, who was sentenced to death today, has consistently denied allegations that the deposed Chief of Staff was party to the plot.

The Army made another attempt today to justify last week's arrests. A spokesman for the armed forces told Japanese journalists that General Chung and two other senior officers had received £20,000 from President Park's assassin in October.

Seoul, Dec 20.—Mr Choi will be inaugurated as President tomorrow, 24 hours after a court sentenced his predecessor's assassins to death.

In a letter to Mr Choi before the inauguration, President Carter underlined his long-standing desire for the country to become more democratic.

Mr Carter failed to get President Park to loosen his grip on national life. Political sources said the Americans are insisting that the country not be allowed to slip back to repression.

Mr Vorster has operation on an infected leg

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Dec 20

Mr John Vorster, aged 64, the former South African State President and Prime Minister, has had a minor operation in a Port Elizabeth hospital for a leg infection. A hospital spokesman said today it was not known when he would be fit to leave.

On Sunday, Mr Vorster stood for half an hour to deliver a Day of the Covenant address although he was clearly in considerable pain. His left leg was heavily bandaged.

Mrs Tini Vorster said her husband had developed an inflammation between his toes which had spread into the leg.

PARLIAMENT, December 20, 1979

Prime Minister and Mr Callaghan in noisy clash over state of the nation

House of Commons

There was uproar at Prime Minister's question time when Mrs Thatcher and Mr Callaghan, the Leader of the Opposition, were involved in noisy exchanges taunting each other with the records of their respective Governments. Several times the Speaker (Mr George Thomas) had to call for order and questions and replies were frequently inaudible.

It began when Mr Callaghan rose to ask Mrs Thatcher: If she believes the people support her policies, has she looked recently at the fact that prices are going up faster than ever before and faster than earnings?

Has she considered that unemployment is rising again, that mortgage interest rates are at a record level, that we are now being told that those out of a job are from now on to have their sick pay taxed and their unemployment benefit cut?

Would she please tell me where all that is to be found in the Conservative manifesto? (Labour cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher—Perhaps he would care to read some of the analyses of these factors in some of the publications today, where the Bank of England points out that any recession which may now be in prospect would stem largely from causes lying well back in the past. (Conservative cheers and cries of "Guilty" and Labour protests.)

Mr Callaghan—If she cannot answer the last question, where did she propose in her manifesto that rail fares were to be increased and that prescription charges were to go up 250 per cent? Does she not now feel she was responsible for grossly misleading the British people? (Prolonged Labour cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher—I hardly think Mr Callaghan put in his previous manifesto that his government would have a record rise in the retail price index, record unemployment and record borrowings. (Loud interruptions and Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—We are beginning to understand that Mrs Thatcher does not like answering these questions. If she will look at the record, which she referred to in an attempt to evade the last question, she will see that inflation was 7.4 per cent just over a year ago. It is now 17.4 per cent.

She will also see that unemployment went down by 100,000 in the last quarter of . . . (Loud interruptions). It has now gone up 20,000 in the last three months. Under her administration, the British people can look forward to a pretty miserable 1980. (Labour cheers and Conservative protests.)

Mrs Thatcher—May I remind him that during the first six months of the last Labour government the standard rate of income tax rose from 30p to 33p and the top rate from 75p to 85p, compared with the first six months of the Conservative government when income tax was reduced from 33p to 30p and the top rate from 85p to 60p.

At this point the interrupions from the Labour benches and cheers from the Conservative benches became so noisy and prolonged that the Speaker commented: The very basis of our House is the right to say something that other people do not want to hear.

Mrs Thatcher—Mr Callaghan started off with 600,000 unemployed and tripled that figure. And may I, Mr Speaker, wish you glad tidings of comfort and joy. (Conservative cheers and laughter.)

There were Conservative protests as Mr Callaghan rose for the fourth time. The Speaker asked for him to be heard.

Mr Callaghan—I was rising to offer the good tidings and greetings of this side to you, Mr Speaker, which is much more than the British people can expect from the Conservative Party. (Labour cheers.)

Constitutional talks on Ulster start in Belfast on January 7

The constitutional conference on Northern Ireland would start on January 7 at Parliament Buildings, Belfast, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, announced during question time.

Mr Atkins (Spelthorne, C) said he had recently had further contacts with the leaders of the four main political parties in Northern Ireland. The leaders of the Democratic Unionist Party, the Social Democratic and Labour Party and the Alliance Party had indicated their readiness to attend the conference.

Its purpose (he said) will be to consider how powers of government could be transferred to locally-elected representatives in Northern Ireland on a basis that is acceptable to both sides of the community there.

I have now written to the three party leaders informing them that the conference will begin on Monday, January 7, at Parliament Buildings, Belfast. I have also written similarly to the leader of the Ulster Unionist party (Mr James Molyneaux, Antrim, South) in the hope that before the conference opens, his party will, after all decide to attend.

I do not underestimate the task that faces the conference. But there is a general desire in the province for progress. We must now turn it to good account.

Mr Robert Parry (Liverpool, Scotland Exchange, Lab)—Many MPs welcome the attendance of the SDLP at the conference. Sooner or later, the whole question of the Irish dimension must be discussed.

Mr Atkins—The Irish dimension is a phrase that means pretty well what you want it to mean. The relationship between any elected body which has control of affairs in Northern Ireland with authorities in the Republic of Ireland will be a matter for that body to decide. There are many areas in which cooperation between the north and the south are important.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C)—Enshrining minority rights in any new constitutional arrangement for Northern Ireland would perpetuate the division between the communities.

It would be more positive if Northern Ireland were to integrate within the United Kingdom with a system of county councils similar to those in Britain. There would be a process of gradual assimilation.

Mr Atkins—I hope one of the purposes of the conference will be to discuss and seek agreement on points such as he makes. There are a variety of ways in which we can do what the Government is determined to try to do—to transfer to locally-elected representatives responsibility for affairs in the province.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab)—The polarization of the vote in the two general elections indicated the developing intensity of the struggle in Northern Ireland. The time has come for all sides to talk. It would be better if the Official Unionists would agree to come in.

Mr Atkins—I hope that the four parties will come and discuss around the table how we can make progress. The Provisional IRA have no interest in political development. I do not believe they wait to see any political development. Their only concern is to seek to destroy democratic institutions in the north and in the south.

While I am sure it is the wish of the people of the province and of this House that we should make political progress, we must not be under any illusion this can reduce the level of violence.

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C)—Will he make it clear that his interpretation of the Irish dimension does not effect the sovereignty of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland?

Mr Atkins—I will readily make that point clear. The difficulty about the phrase Irish dimension is that it means to anybody exactly what they want it to mean. What is clear is that there is a range of matters of common interest to people on that island whether they live north of south of the border.

BL to get more money: chairman warns workers and suppliers

The Government is to provide more money for British Leyland's 1980 corporate plan, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, announced in a statement. The situation at BL was not encouraging, he said, and he added that in a letter the chairman had said that if there were disruptions through strikes or for other reasons the board of BL would abandon the plan.

Sir Keith Joseph said: In reviewing this plan the Government has borne very much in mind its responsibilities to the taxpayer as well as to all those concerned with the future of BL. I am bound to say *that the situation is not encouraging*: the company continues to be in a poor financial state and faces strong competitive pressures in the 1980s. Only with very substantial improvements in BL's all round *performance will the company survive*; success cannot by any means be guaranteed.

Details of BL's recent performance and of the plan are contained in a report by the staff of *the National Enterprise Board.*

The plan offers, in the BL Board's view, the only feasible strategy which could give BL the chance of being viable. The chairman has written to assure me that *if the Government decides to support* the plan, the board and management will pursue it with the utmost rigour. In the same letter however the chairman states that if there is a significant shortfall in *cash flow whether due to major* disruptions through internal or external strikes, or to delays in any of their programmes for investment and launch of new products, restructuring and redundancies or *for improving productivity and* working practices, or to any other cause internal or external, the board will abandon the plan.

The plan envisages a requirement for £297m of public funds in 1980, *with a further £133m between* 1981 and 1983. These two sums together represent the £225m balance of the original Ryder £1,000m plus £205m to meet the cost of redundancies and closures *under the management's restructuring programme.*

The company seek approval at this stage for only their 1980 requirements.

In the light of the chairman's *letter the Government has decided* to fund the plan up to the end of 1980-81 by the provision of £150m in equity form, with an additional facility on which BL would be entitled to draw on evidence of *need up to a maximum of a further* £150m. In addition, we accept the BL Board's request for conversion to equity of the £150m loans provided in 1977. The Government will also be looking to *BL to contribute to funding needs* from its internal resources, including the disposal of assets where this makes commercial sense.

To the extent that the plan calls *for funds going beyond the Ryder* £1,000m clearance from the Common Market Commission will be necessary.

I am sure that MPs on both sides will join with me in wishing the *BL board, management, and work*force success in the task that lies ahead.

Mr John Silkin, Opposition spokesman on industry (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab)—The Secretary of State says that success cannot be guaranteed. Would he agree the key to BL's future lies in the new model programme? Since a new model takes about four years to reach fruition and his plans end in 1980-81, how does he propose to guarantee that the new model programme is able to continue?

Since in particular France and Germany find it necessary to invest at least double the amount that BL is now talking about, how much more of our domestic market does he feel he is able to see disappear to our foreign competitors without him being willing to provide the investment funds?

Sir Keith Joseph—The plan goes up to 1983 but the only finance requested by the BL board is for 1980. It is true new models are an essential part of the plan. One new model of a car is intended to be launched in 1980 and new truck models will emerge during 1980. They are to some extent imminent.

While new models are vital they are not the only component of success. There is also productivity and quality.

Mr John Bruce-Gardyne (Knutsford, C)—The trickle system of support for this industry must be open to question on commercial grounds. There must be at least an argument for saying that the time has come to appoint a receiver with the obligation of obtaining the maximum financial resources for this business as a going commercial concern.

Sir Keith Joseph—I think Mr Bruce-Gardyne will find when he studies the letter that the attitude of the BL board to the performance required to fulfil this plan is a realistic one and is not consistent with his description of trickle finance. There have been just enough changes in performance both of management and in some parts of the workforce to justify what the Government has decided.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) — No other interpretation can be put on the letter he referred to from Sir Michael Edwardes that if the steel strike goes ahead and there is a shortage of steel for Leyland, the company will abandon the plan. It is not a hypothetical question.

Can he state categorically whether there has been any meeting by any minister or civil servant in his department with any representative of the Renault Company with respect to the possible purchase of any part of British Leyland?

Sir Keith Joseph — What? At any time? The question about the steel strike is hypothetical because who can tell what the length of any such strike, if it occurs, will be; the effectiveness of such a strike; and the stocks held by British Leyland.

As for Renault, apart from a social evening in Paris where I met a number of French industrialists, including one of the top management of Renault for purely a general discussion, there has been no meeting between me and any Renault representative.

My department has not to my knowledge had any contact with Renault.

Mr Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton, South-West, C)—He has resisted much larger demands by *British Leyland for about £2,000m* but there is a considerable danger that this system of financing by dribbles and drabbles will cause the profitable parts of British Leyland to be dragged down by the *unprofitable* parts.

Sir Keith Joseph—We have a realistic British Leyland board. It is not true to assume they approached the Government for a much larger sum of money still.

Use of helicopters in Ulster against IRA

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during questions that he was studying the deployment and use of helicopters in the province because they were a most useful weapon against the Provisional IRA.

Mr Brynmor John, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Pontypridd, Lab) had said—If the army is to use deserted farm houses as observation points, they ought to have some means of guarding against intruders getting into them and mining them, as occurred last week.

As individual units seem to be singled-out for attack early in their tours, is he satisfied with the training of these new units?

Since motorized patrols are singled out for attack, he should press for more helicopters to be made available for Northern Ireland operations, both independently and in conjunction with these motorized patrols.

Mr Atkins—Detailed implementation of security policy is left to the security forces. The circumstances of each case vary. Nonetheless, I will make sure his point is brought to the attention of the GOC and the Chief Constable.

New army units in the province are given intensive and elaborate training before they arrive. There is no conclusive evidence that new units are being attacked rather than anybody else, but I will look into this.

I have a great deal of sympathy with his question on the use of helicopters. They are a valuable weapon in our armoury against terrorists. The helicopter is not exclusive and we must have all the rest of our activities against the terrorists.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 11: Christmas adjournment debates.

Pointless to rake over past on eve of peace settlement in Rhodesia

It was not the Government's intention to go ahead with any further inquiry into the affairs raised by the Bingham report, the Prime Minister said at question time.

Mrs Thatcher added: We believe now, on the eve of signing the Rhodesia ceasefire, it is a time of reconciliation. (Labour protests).

She was replying to Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, who had asked: Now that the Attorney General has said there will be no criminal proceedings arising from the Bingham report, when will the Cabinet come to a conclusion about what to do about the decision of the House that there should be a special inquiry?

During exchanges after future business had been announced, Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab) asked the leader of the House—Will he reconsider this strange constitutional doctrine he is propounding that the decision of one Parliament can be overruled by the veto of a Cabinet? The matter should be brought here so that MPs could reconsider the question.

Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster—A resolution of this House is not in the same category as legislation. That, of course, binds a successive Parliament until repealed. What possible good can be served, when peace is in sight in Rhodesia, by raking up all this stuff over again?

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab)—He has given an unsatisfactory answer on the casual announcement of an important statement of government policy not to proceed with the prosecution of British companies who have broken British law.

Throughout all our debates on the Zimbabwe Bill it was plain to all of us that the amnesty then proposed was an intra-Rhodesia amnesty designed to bring about a reconciliation between the parties to the dispute there.

What is at stake with Bingham is the general question of our public position in the rest of the world, whether or not we do mean what we say as one government after another and our reputation for fair dealing.

It is not good enough to dismiss this matter in this cursory way.

Mr St John-Stevas—He is confusing two different issues. The first is the decision of the DPP not to proceed with prosecutions and that is not a matter for me but for the DPP.

On the inquiry, it is Mr Shore's opinion that one would be useful. It is not the opinion of the Government. It is unnecessary, untimely and would be liable to damage this country's reputation and cause embarrassment when peace is coming to Rhodesia.

Ban on sale of guns to police would help IRA

If the order for 3,000 Ruger revolvers from America for use by the Royal Ulster Constabulary was rejected, it would not only be wrong but a propaganda victory for the IRA, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, declared to cheers.

She had been asked by Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU) to refrain from visiting Washington again so long as the United States maintained its unfriendly ban on the supply of weapons to a police force in the United Kingdom.

Mrs Thatcher replied that it was not as yet a ban. Some 3,000 Ruger revolvers were delivered for use for the RUC because the Government wished wholly to reequip that force with the weapons which were best for the purpose.

There was another order for 3,000 such weapons. That had not yet been accepted or rejected, but if it was rejected it would not only be wrong but a propaganda victory for the IRA.

Bill allows more flexible approach to increases in pensions: supplementary benefit changes

The Government's Social Security Bill was not one of the usual tidying up measures and in some respects it was controversial, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services (Redbridge, Wanstead and Woodford, C), said when moving the second reading of the Bill.

Its objectives were to enact the Government's firm commitment to *protect pensions and other long*-term benefits against rising prices, reform the supplementary benefits scheme, establish a new social security advisory committee, abolish the separate Supplementary *Benefits Commissions in Great* Britain and Northern Ireland and the national insurance advisory committee, and to extend equal terms for men and women in social security.

Basic retirement pensions and other long term benefits had at present to be increased at least in line with the movement of earnings or prices, whichever was the greater. The main reason for amending *the law was that experience had* shown that promise had not, and probably never could be, matched by performance.

The Government's commitment was clear. The Bill contained a *guarantee for pensioners against* rising prices. The Government had repeatedly committed itself to ensuring that pensioners shared in rising prosperity. Ministers would decide each year in the light of the economy and other spending priorities how to honour this pledge. The Conservatives' record when last in government showed that without any statutory requirement pensions increased by substantially more than prices. This was a more realistic, more honest, and above all more sustainable prospectus.

The uprating date crept forward each year. This was never intended and the Bill gave rather more flexibility to fixing the date at which increases would take effect.

The keynote of the reform of the supplementary benefits scheme was simplification. This would take two forms—first the establishment of a new legal and administrative framework. The rules of the scheme would be clearer and the emphasis *shifted from discretion*ary payments to payments made under clear rules of entitlement. Second was the simplification of the structure of the benefits themselves.

*The principles by which discre*tion was exercised had often been obscure and claimants rarely knew what they ought to get. Officials operating the scheme had to refer to a huge mass of complicated *guidance which many of them did* not understand.

An important consequence of the new legal structure was that policies would be set out clearly in a guide which would be more easily understood and which would be issued on the authority of the Secretary of State.

It was intended that claimants should in future be given a written notice setting out the basis of their entitlement.

The most important single change in the simplification of benefits was the proposal to align the supplementary benefit scale rates with their national insurance counterparts. A major simplification in itself, this also provided money to improve the scheme elsewhere.

The Bill would defer school leavers' entitlement to supplementary benefit until a fixed date around the beginning of the next school term. The main purpose of this change was to redeploy DHSS staff to more useful work.

The reform of the supplementary benefit system had to be undertaken now if it was not to collapse. The state of the economy did not allow the Government to put in the extra resources which would mean that no single beneficiary would lose. It had tried to ensure that such losses as there were were individually small, they would be absorbed in the upratings next November and no beneficiary was *expected actually to end up under* the Bill with less than he had now. The Bill was a first stage of the reform.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on social services (Salford, West, Lab), said the Bill fitted into an emerging pattern. It set the better off against the poor, those in work against those without work and the deserving poor against the undeserving poor.

What was going to be done about strikers' families? Would the Government break the link with prices for short term benefits? *Were the pensioners, sick, unem*ployed, one parent families, and the disabled going to have to shoulder further burdens to protect the better-off from tax increases?

When there had been rising unemployment and difficulties over inflation in the past, redundancy payments and a reasonable level of benefits for those in need had been the buffers which had protected society from social unrest.

If we start interfering with that pattern (he said) we may see a period, certainly, when the unemployed will not allow their families to go hungry or to suffer without putting up a fight. I warn the Government that they are playing with fire on this important social issue.

The minister had set up a smokescreen to hide what was a flagrant breaking of confidence with the pensioners and long-term beneficiaries. They did not yet know what was in store for them. This had been done to reduce public expenditure.

Minister accused of being political Judas

Mr Andrew Bowden (Brighton Kempton, C) said that in the last 10 years pensioners had seen their savings destroyed. The people who had gained were those in full-time employment. The Secretary of State should have come to the House with a watertight clause ensuring that pensioners were protected. It would give him no pleasure to vote against the Bill with Labour MPs who had betrayed pensioners many times, but he *would.*

Between January, 1970 and 1978, prices rose by 168 per cent. Pensioners spent a high proportion of their income on food and fuel. The pensioners' index which did not include housing, rose by 192 per cent in the same period.

Mr David Ennals (Norwich, North, Lab) said the Government came to office on a false prospectus. If it had honestly said to nearly 10 million pensioners that it would as one of its first measures, take action to undermine the statutory obligation created by the last Labour Government, it would *seriously have affected the result* of the election.

Miss Josephine Richardson (Barking, Lab) said it was a rag-bag of a Bill and it gave rise to grave concern for large numbers of people. It should be replaced with another Bill which took into account the wide range of the social security system.

Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (Kensington and Chelsea, Kensington, C) said the House was united in feeling a deep sense of shame about the present condition of the welfare state. There was not enough money for people in need. If there was to be a fall in the total level of the nation's earnings in real terms next year, the minister was right not to try to relate benefits to earnings because that would result in an actual cut in the standard of living of people on low incomes.

Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L) said he was appalled that in general all the pensioners could look forward to was the bare maintenance of their present standard of living. *That was* disgraceful. If there was to be growth in the economy again the Bill meant that pensioners were going to get a gradually reducing percentage of the gross national product. That must be wrong and he could not support it.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU) said his party was strongly in favour of what was proposed in the Bill for Northern Ireland. It was right there should be one comprehensive advisory committee for the whole of the United Kingdom securing both uniformity and fairness and a coordi*nation of the different forms of* social security benefit which would be in its reach.

Mr Iain Sproat (Aberdeen, South, C) said the social security system was now running out of control. It was costing the country more than it could afford and too often too much was going to the wrong people and too little to the right people.

All short-term benefits should be taxed like wages. Benefits of strikers' families should be curbed. Short-term benefits should not be index linked and a far firmer legislative line should be drawn between those who were unemployed and genuinely wanted work and those who were unemployed and did not want work.

Mr Dafydd Thomas (Merioneth, Plaid Cymru) said he opposed the Bill because it failed to end the dis*crimination against the long-term* unemployed. On the one hand, the Government deliberately created unemployment and on the other, it refused to maintain the incomes of those it makes unemployed.

Mr Albert Stallard (Camden, St Pancras North, Lab) said the Bill was a fairly crude attempt to cut the number of claimants by the high-sounding principles of simplification and open government.

Mr Michael Colvin (Bristol, North-West, C) called for a single, comprehensive scheme of rebates for poorer families to help them with their fuel costs.

Mr Reginald Freeson an Opposition spokesman on health and social security (Brent, East, Lab) said the Government intended to end the link between annual pensions uprating and the increase in pay. Within a few years, pensioners could be losing about £4 a week rising steadily to a weekly loss of £8 a week.

Mr Reginald Prentice, Minister of State for Social Security (Davenry, C) said the Bill presented sensible and modest practical social reforms. The clause of the Bill linking pensions with prices guaranteed that pensions would keep once with prices and it laid down a minimum level for the uprating of pensions.

To assume that the minimum level set out in Clause 1 was necessarily to be the maximum *level for the future was false.* The purpose of the change was to restore to ministers, subject to the approval of Parliament, the decision whether and by how much pensions should be raised over the *statutory minimum. The Bill res*tored to ministers the duty of making a choice and to Parliament the duty to judge that choice.

In other words the Bill replaced a *system that was constitutionally unsound, economically damaging* and socially unjust. The Opposition were acting more and more like soccer hooligans and less and less like parliamentarians.

After heated interruptions from Labour MPs Mr Robert Atkins (Preston, North, C) asked the Speaker if it was in order for members to refer to Mr Prentice as a traitor.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas)—I did not hear that expression myself. Everyone knows it is out of order to call any member a traitor.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab)—I was one of several MPs who called the minister that name. (Conservative cries of "Withdraw".)

The Speaker—In that case he must withdraw the expression.

Mr Ashton—I will withdraw it and substitute the phrase "Political Judas". (renewed protests.)

Mr Prentice concluded his speech amid uproar.

The Bill was read a second time by 312 votes to 255—Government majority, 57.

The Protection of Trading Interests Bill passed its remaining stages.

Yard, square yard and the therm continue

A decision on the future of the yard, square yard and therm need *not be taken for another 10 years.* Early today it was agreed that these three measures join other commonly used Imperial units on which, under an EEC directive, no decision need be taken before December 31, 1989.

Mr Reginald Eyre, Under Secretary for Trade (Birmingham, Hall Green, C) said that as things stood, the yard, square yard and the therm would have to be removed from legislation at the end of this year.

This was unacceptable to the Government since the early demise of the yard and the square yard would effectively compel the use of metric units only in certain retail sales and the gas industry needed to use the therm for some time.

He said the new directive, which would come into force on October 1, 1981, set *out to regulate the use* of units in certain spheres of activity, economic, health, safety or administration purposes. As units of measurement ceased to be authorized, reference to such units in legislation must be replaced.

The directive did not introduce controls in areas where they did not already exist. Sport made widespread use of units of measurement but it was not subject to legislative controls. The furlong, which ceased to be authorized at the end of 1977 (along with the rood and dram), could continue to be a feature of race meetings, if the organisers so wished.

The Government (he said) does not intend to compel metrication by legislation. Accordingly, voluntary timetables can be drawn up by the trade interests directly concerned.

The Government shares the view of the previous administration that the directive should not seek to dictate the pace of metrication but *rather it should reflect the pace of* change here

An amendment by Mr Eric Deakins (Waltham Forest, Walthamstow, Lab) to the Government motion to take note of the EEC document on units of measurement, was agreed to. This sought to establish the principle that the House should decide if and when the remaining Imperial units *should be phased out.*

Wednesday's sitting ended at 1.48 am today.

Still relying on the few

House of Lords

By next summer, Britain will have 104 fighter aircraft available in a period of tension and another 12 in 1982, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, Minister of State for Defence, said during questions.

He had been asked by Lord Orr-Ewing (C) how many RAF fighters would be available for the defence of the United Kingdom.

As to whether that number was adequate, the minister said: we should not be satisfied but we are hopeful that we would get by.

The Betting, Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill was read *the third time and passed.*

Royal Assent was given to the following Acts: Consolidated Fund (No 2), European Communities (Greek Accession), Isle of Man, Shipbuilding, Zimbabwe University College London, Greater London Council (General Powers), and City of London (Various Powers).

House adjourned, 12.3 am for the Christmas recess.

THE ARTS

ECO marks two birthdays and plays new Henze

The English Chamber Orchestra will start its 1980 season with a seventy-fifth birthday concert for Sir Michael Tippett and will end the first half of the season, in June, with a seventieth birthday concert for Sir Peter Pears. Other events during the spring include a concert of Mozart with Itzhak Perlman in March, at the Royal Albert Hall, and the London premiere of Henze's *Aria de la Folia Espanola* in the Queen Elizabeth Hall in April. In May there will be the London premiere of the chamber version of Ives's *Three Places in New England* with Michael Tilson Thomas as conductor.

Brilliant casting for an Italian caprice

Breaking Away (A)
Gate 2; Odeon, Kensington (Dec 26)

Luna (X)
Odeon, Haymarket (Jan 3)

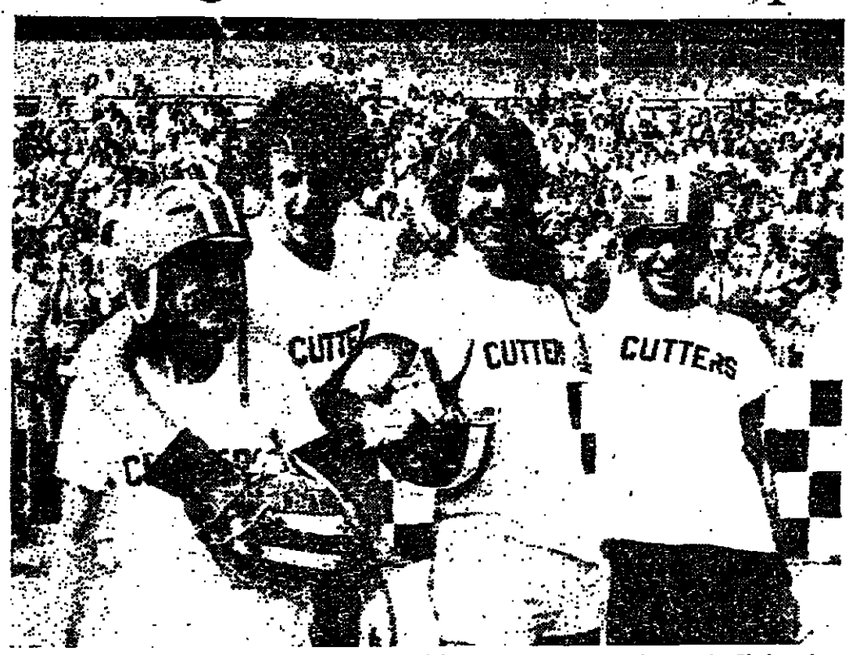
Goin' South A)
Plaza 4, Lower Regent Street

The Black Hole (A)
Odeon, Leicester Sq

Meteor (A)
Warner, West End

Bear Island (A)
Columbia (Dec 27)

Caravans (A)
Classic 1, Haymarket (Dec 28)



Breaking Away: Jackie Earle Haley (l.), Daniel Stern, Dennis Quaid, Dennis Christopher

Breaking Away is certainly the most likeable film of 1979—and this is the end of the year when that is no hollow compliment. It is set in a very real place: Bloomington, Indiana, which boasts a university whose campus is a different world from that of the townsfolk, known to the students as "butters" on account of the traditional local stone industry.

Young Dave is a nice, friendly, loose-limbed youth, as ordinary as the next except that he has a bad case of Italophilia, born out of his hero-worship of Italian cycle racers. He listens to Italian opera, eats Italian food, wears Italian clothes and cologne, shaves his legs (because that is what Italian men do), goes round kissing other fellows on both cheeks and talks with a heavy Italian accent. His three best buddies take such eccentricities in their stride; his mother quite enjoys them; but his father, a used-car salesman, is exasperated into a coronary.

Dave and his friends are in the stage of post-High School unemployment, reluctant to follow their fathers into drab working lives, and resentful of the better life of the college kids. It is finally the bitter rivalry of cutters and sophomores that spurs Dave to hard-won victory in Bloomington's annual Little 500 Bicycle Race. In the course of things he gets over his Italian enthusiasms, experiences some of the disillusion of growing up ("Everybody cheats", he howls in a moment of enlightenment), and wins his way to college.

Looked at closely, it is an amalgam of all the most prosaic and conservative morals: East, West, home's best; happiness is on your own doorstep; if at first you don't succeed; if you can keep your head when all the rest . . . ; nothing succeeds like success. The film triumphs over its own bland half-truisms. Steven Tesich's script is funny, without making the people seem too smart to be real, and vigorously characterizes the four boys. "The trick", John Huston once explained, "is in the casting". Peter Yates has cast unfamiliar people, but wonderful actors: Dennis Christopher as the sweetly daft Dave; Dennis Quaid, Daniel Stern and Jackie Earle Haley as his friends; Barbara Barrie as his vague, accepting mother and Paul Dooley as the explosively suffering father.

Yates (British-born) has built his reputation on films like *Robbery* and *Bullitt*. The gift for action (perhaps it came from his years in motor racing) is well demonstrated in the climactic cycling contest, the most exciting race I can recall in any film. At the same time he reveals a new and very likeable talent for the small town story and humanly comic characters.

If you come to *Luna* in expectation of high art or profound human revelation (not unreasonable expectations after all from Bernardo Bertolucci) you may be as disappointed as were his American critics or as angry as the Italians. If however you accept it as a sentimental melodrama, shallow but bright-surfaced, it can be perfectly enjoyable.

It is a simple story, and all summarized in the prologue, set in a house by the beach. A baby is crying; the mother gives it honey on her fingers till it starts to choke. The baby, entangled in a symbolic umbilical cord of knitting wool, cries for her attention; but the mother is too busy, dancing with a man who remains only an enigmatic silhouette. Fourteen years later, the mother is a great operatic diva, capricious and self-centred, still confusing her son by alternately ignoring and absurdly indulging him. The boy takes drugs, partly in revenge, partly for consolation.

The quarrels and reconciliations of mother and son reach polar extremes of violence and masturbatory incest. Each of them is two-faced like the moon: the mother, having perceived the other face of the boy, reveals her own secret, the identity of the man in the prologue and the history of a love affair frustrated by another Oedipal trap.

So much for the anecdote; and if it does not go deep at an obsessive presence in least it pitches high. Verdi is several of Bertolucci's films, dominating both *The Spider's Stratagem* and 1900. The mother's music is all Verdi and her vision of life a Verdi melodrama, as she reveals when she takes her son to see the composer's villa. Verdi provides all the dramatic climaxes of the film, down to the grand finale, in which the emotional entanglements are straightened out (with all the tidiness of any operatic last act) in the course of a rehearsal of *Un Ballo in Maschera* in the Caracalla baths. If you are still taking a realistic view of things it's quite absurd; but so long as you are caught up in Bertolucci's operatic convention it boasts a certain thrill.

Technically the film is fine. Bertolucci shot much of it in his birthplace, Parma, and the Emilian countryside, which Vittorio Storaro's camera turns into an arena for melodrama. The demanding duet is played by Jill Clayburgh—more than brave in a role that seems to demand a more obviously Latin temperament—and Matthew Barry, whose intuitive, non-histrionic intensity gives the film a necessary firm centre.

Goin' South is Jack Nicholson's second film as director (his first, *Drive, He Said*, appeared nine years ago). A rambling, rustic, good-natured Western, it stars Nicholson as an unshaven horse-thief who is saved from the gallows by a bystander's offer of marriage. It looks like a fate worse than death, however, when she wants him to work; but he gets enthusiastically caught up in her struggles against the predatory railroad and local officials.

Disney's entry in the megabuck sci-fi stakes is *The Black Hole*, directed by Gary Nelson. Its major advantage over *Star Trek* is a reasonably comprehensible story: a great mind (Maximilian Schell), driven by scientific ambition, is ready to sacrifice human lives to his desire to explore one of the great "black holes" in the universe. The vision of space is decorative: the images—whether a space-ship dinner, all glittering crystal glasses and chandeliers, or tiny figures silhouetted against rocketing conflagrations in outer space—have an abstract fascination.

The film has also the admirable merit of not being too serious. "You *shouldn't* have done that", Mud Max gently reproaches his pet giant robot, after it has drilled through a fellow-scientist's breast. For pure comic relief there are two chubby, swivel-eyed robots—no rivals to the double act in *Star Wars*, but with all the cute, destructive humour of cartoon characters.

Meteor, directed by Ronald Neame, takes the disaster movie to the extreme of parody. In the control rooms, all among the computers, Sean Connery and Natalie Wood fall mildly in love; Brian Keith kids around in Russian dialogue and Karl Malden rages while a five-mile meteor rushes towards the earth. Hong Kong is destroyed by flood, a Swiss village is overwhelmed by an avalanche, Pisa and Siberia are badly shaken and a fair bit of New York is rased, but worse disaster is averted by Soviet-American cooperation, and everyone comes up smiling (ask not why) from the subway.

Silliness reigns again in *Bear Island*, directed by Don Sharp from an Alistair MacLean novel. It has the appearance of updating *Ten Little Indians*: one after another the members of an international expedition to Bear Island die in mysterious accidents. Meanwhile, in an old Nazi U-boat base, lies a submarine laden with gold and mouldering corpses. Donald Sutherland has a macabre reunion with his long-dead father, one of the moulderers; and Vanessa Redgrave, who should know better than to encourage this sort of foolishness, adopts a Scandinavian accent.

For yet more unseasonal silliness, there is *Caravans*, very wildly adapted from James Michener and directed, on Iranian locations, by James Fargo. The action is supposed to take place in Central Asia in 1948, with Michael Sarrazin as an American diplomat trying to trace a senator's daughter who has married a local despot but then run off with a wily old nomad, played with all the tiresome old wiliness of which Anthony Quinn is capable.

David Robinson

Last night's television

Faithful and fierce

The Network
BBC 1

Fay Weldon

It is odd to see what you know to be true presented on television with all the gloss of fiction. It is 20 years since I first heard rumours of the existence of a London clinic similar to the one described by Stephen Fagan, writer of last night's Play for Today, which was very much the kind of Play for Today I like to see—indignant, passionate and truthful: a mirror, as they used to say in the early days of television, held up to the world. Every woman who has ever feared infertility, lamented a pregnancy, been at either end of the processes of adoption, marvelled at the way men (doctors, lawyers, priests) control women's bodies or encountered an ordinary gynaecological ward, where women who desperately want babies lie next to those desperately trying to get rid of them, must have been glued to the set. And that, one way or another, is most of us.

The play took enormous subjects by the neck—babies v abortion, nature v nature, racism, sexism, elitism, all the other isms and distresses which along with joy so closely attend the birth of the human child—and shook them into intelligent shape. So many questions were raised by it that the addition of an actual plot, the mad scurry of the doctors to save their appallingly unscrupulous necks, came as a bonus.

There were certainly flaws: a swift and economical script given rather laborious treatment, contrasts between rich and poor, baddies and goodies, hammered ruthlessly home (and no London room, however richly sinister, is ever as large as television cameras keep insisting) and casting that went with the grain, not against it. By that I mean if you cast actors with familiar faces, however good, who look as Harley Street doctors and policemen's daughters undoubtedly do in real life, you are left, oddly enough, not with a sense of reality but of caricature: a difficulty which Geoffrey Chater managed to transcend and Anthony Bate and Sarah Clee nobly to cope with. A special mention to Natalie Caron as the pregnant "Kraut" who in a brief part quite simply glowed.

Weekend
BBC 2

Stanley Reynolds

Première on BBC 2 is a showcase for directors making their debuts on television. A noble aim no doubt. But someone should remind the BBC that a play needs an author as well as a director. *Weekend*, directed by John Burrows, was a typical example of what viewers have learnt to expect from *Première*. No one could fault the pictures but where were the words, where the characters, where, indeed, the story?

What we had last night was not a story but a mere incident—given a trick twist by Ian Kennedy Martin, yet still nothing but an incident none the less. And since it was a mere incident there was no real chance for either that admirable actor, Mr Kenneth Haigh, or Miss Ann Firbank to latch on to the emotional robots they were playing and give them any real character. Well, much of television is like that anyway. One supposes the faults of this particular play will have gone unnoticed by most viewers. Still, the audience would feel that something was missing. Oddly enough, that loss was aggravated by the splendour of the scenery, both Dorset's scenery and the scenery of the human face to which Mr Burrows paid such loving attention.

Here the audience was being wooed with gorgeous visual stuff as good as a big-budget cinema film, and yet inside it nothing was happening. Mr Haigh was yet another one of those tiresome heroes going through a mid-life crisis. He had gone to a Dorset inn for a bleak midwinter weekend to recollect himself. There he met his female counterpart. They had a series of wierd encounters. Then, twisting the plot in a very pull-the-other-one manner, Mr Kennedy Martin told us they were man and wife or, at least, had been man and wife.

The hero was a playwright attempting to write a play about a divorced couple. The former wife, played by Miss Firbank, had gone along with the game. It was easy to see why she had left him, but any couple who could cook up such a charade are obviously made for each other. And any actors who manage to stay upright and unsmiling through such roles deserve some sort of mention in dispatches; perhaps anonymity would have been a better reward for Mr Haigh and Miss

Babes in the Wood
Watford

Irving Wardle

The arrival of the Sherriff of Nottingham in a 10-gallon hat, shooting his way through the merry-making villagers, does not support Watford's claim for this show as a "traditional Christmas pantomime", but otherwise it seems a fair description.

Knowing nothing of the stage history of *Babes in the Wood*, I cannot say how traditional it is to cross-fertilize the Hansel and Gretel story with Robin Hood, combined with echoes of *Richard III* and *Peter Pan*. But Peter John's script certainly tells a good story incorporating all the standard pantomime figures, leaves television out of the theatre, and fires a few double-meanings over the kids' heads beyond Nurse Nellie's dismissal of one of her admirers as a "sensual mechanic".

As protector of the babes and also in hot pursuit of their wicked guardian, Nellie (slogan "Nurse knows") is not without her own problems which Mr John, playing the masterful Dame, solves by leading a girl guide search party through the forest and capturing the villainous man of her dreams, after giving him a shot with a huge hyperdermic syringe. The sight of Mr John, weapon in hand, asking our permission to plunge it into Richard Kay's submissive rump, is one of the show's notable additions to the audience-participation repertoire.

It is as well that Mr John is on stage, as he gets little comic support from the Sherriff's two awkward squad accomplices.

Ted Craig's production is also vocally underpowered, with the exception of Bronwen Williams's green-haired witch, who pulls all the stops out for her cackling coloratura climax. Dance is another matter: the show has a really snappy chorus line who show to equal advantage in tap, dream ballet, woodland habanera, round the maypole, or in the gingerbread men's pas de trois luring the babes into the witch's cottage.

Ian Steele and Jo Cameron Brown play the Babes as a sturdy, indestructible pair who effectively banish any danger of pathos. Mr John calls them Jack and Jill and they arrive with a pail full of lollipops, which the audience are required to guard, which supply a lead into the Shirley Temple number, and which crop up again when the witch plants a trail of lollipops to her lair.

It is that kind of thrifty plotting that holds the show together; plus a keen sense of the dividing line between what is thrilling and what is frightening.

Just a Verse and Chorus
Leicester

Ned Chaillet

No performer ever thanks a reviewer for saying simply that the entire company did a splendid job. Their name is their currency and ensemble work is a secretive thing. The stars of *Just a Verse and Chorus*, however, are indisputably the long deceased songwriters R. Weston and Bert Lee, and if any names should be remembered theirs should.

I could make things easier, and I will, by naming some of their songs. The easy ones come first, with titles like "Good By-ee", "What a Mouth", and "Knees Up Mother Brown". Some of the songs are by the two writers together, and others by them separately. Whatever anonymity Weston and Lee might have maintained, their songs are full of the hooks and tangles that trap them in the memory.

Roy Hudd recognized that when he began compiling the programme, and the show's title tells how little is needed of the songs to bring them back. It takes only a "verse and a chorus" to start a subdued humming in the audience, and when given the chance, which happened several times, the audience becomes a joyful music hall choir. Robin Midgley has not staged a simple sing-song, however. Far from it. The show is designed by Mr Hudd as if it were a seaside entertainment hosted by Weston and Lee themselves.

Without wasteful indulgence in biography it sets their lives to music and plunders the music hall tradition for strings of jokes that give Londoner Weston and Yorkshireman Lee an identity that they carefully protected from the public during their careers.

They apparently wrote some 3,000 songs, worked on over 75 stage shows and 17 films, before Bob Weston terminated their 20-year partnership by dying in 1936. Lee joined him 10 years later, having provided by himself such songs as "Knees Up Mother Brown".

I suppose the surprise is that songs like these ever had a writer. They seem always to have been there, like that ode to Anne Boleyn—"With 'er 'ead tucked underneath 'er arm"—and "I'm 'Enery the Eighth I am". But the range is wide, as Mr Hudd is careful to establish with lyrics praising tripe and claiming that it was a fallen angel who first made. Yorkshire pudding.

Cinderella
Covent Garden

John Percival

More often than not, the ugly sisters have been the stars of Frederick Ashton's *Cinderella*. Many people must have pondered possible sinister explanations when the Royal Ballet did not even announce who would play them in this year's revival. At Wednesday's premiere they turned out to be Michael Coleman and Derek Rencher.

To follow the celebrated double act of Ashton and Helpmann is no joke. With Coleman as the nervous, flustered one they have gone part way to finding a suitable successor. He looks too butch to be ideal and concentrates so hard on being funny that he does not manage to be touching. But he found some new gags, notably falling downstairs on arriving at the ball, and his own way of playing some old ones. He seems likely to get inside the skin of the role.

However, the comedy is ballet's equivalent of a cross-talk act and depends on repartee. Rencher's playing of the bossy sister is so coldly self-contained that there is no give and take. He wears a bizarre, over-elaborate make-up, goes conscientiously through all the standard business, but if he has a sense of humour he does not let it show.

Since the first scene is mainly theirs, that got the ballet off to a dull start and put all the weight on Merle Park's Cinderella. Luckily, she knows exactly how to bring out every nuance of the part and was dancing like a dream. What a pity that she detracted from her appearance by wearing such a decrepit looking pair of toe-shoes. Apart from that, and one missed balance in the last duet, she was excellent.

Her prince, so anonymous that he does not even have a name, is a smaller role, but Anthony Dowell flashed his handsome, sun-tanned smile at every opportunity (maybe just a little too often?) and danced with brilliant, hard-edged elegance.

Wayne Sleep has the speed for the jester's dances, but his comedy is all in one tiresomely forceful mood and he does not catch any of the poetry the role used to have. Some of the other parts were heavily played and in the fairy scenes the *corps de ballet* outdanced the soloists, but Monica Mason has just the right smile for the fairy godmother.

The designs by Henry Bardon and David Walker manage to be vulgar and genteel at once, and by some strange miscalculation Cinderella's kitchen rags are the nearest thing to chic all evening. But Ashton's choreography looks masterly in spite of everything, and Ashley Lawrence secured a mainly decent account of Prokofiev's score.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

SPORT

Cricket

Australia leave out Thomson for Melbourne Test match

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Sydney, Dec 20

The Australian team for their next two Test matches, against West Indies in Melbourne and England in Sydney, are a reflection on the jumbled scene. The first of them does not include Thomson, the second does; Ian Chappell is in neither of them, although he will be playing for Australia in both their one-day matches between now and the start of the Melbourne Test match on December 29. Lillee retains his place, although Bob Parish, chairman of the Australian Cricket Board, has called for a report from both umpires on "the affair of the aluminium bat".

Those who care about the way cricket is played in Australia, and are concerned about the declining standards of behaviour, will be relieved to hear that Mr Parish has moved into action. Barry Richards, now playing and coaching in Perth, was saying during the Test match there that there is no limit to what the young cricketers of Western Australia are getting up to. He is appalled by what he finds. It is the day of the ruffian and the regiment of ruffians grows larger every time someone like Lillee behave as he did in Perth.

Thomson is replaced in the Australian twelve for Melbourne (which includes only five Packer players) by a leg spinner, Higgs, who played against England last winter and is currently having a good season. Thomson's omission in Melbourne and his return for Sydney would have something to do with the comparative slowness of the Melbourne pitch. He may also still be feeling the effects of a recent ankle injury. The splitting up of the Thomson-Lillee partnership is, even so, significant. The omission of Ian Chappell from both these Test teams suggests, rightly or wrongly, that the selectors are prepared to go only so far in bowing to the promoters' wishes.

England flew from Perth to Brisbane today (a flight that took almost as long as one from London to Bombay) for their next one-day international, against West Indies in Brisbane on Sunday. The perennial problem besets them—what to do about the batting. Gooch will probably be back on Sunday for the one-day game and Larkins will have the chance to press his claims in the four-day game against Queensland, starting in Brisbane on December 28. After this England play only four more first-class matches before returning home, three of them Tests, although the tour is not yet half over. For Larkins, in fact, the opportunities are running out.

Yesterday's defeat was England's first against Australia since they lost to Yallop's side in the Third Test last winter and only their second (against New Zealand at Auckland in March 1978 was the other) in 28 Tests against all-comers. In few of those have they not at some time or other been short of runs. Almost always, though, they have got away with it, usually with a better side than yesterday's. Hendrick was much missed in Perth.

To be bowled out now by Dymock, who is 34 and has spent his career in the shadows of Thomson, Lillee, Walker, Hogg and various others, was ironic. It was a good piece of Australian selection to bring Dymock in for Perth, to bowl, as he did, into the wind and to use it to swing the ball. I am not sure that Australia bowled much better than England, but they certainly batted better.

Tactics, technique and team selection will all be carefully thought about before England play Australia in a Test match next. Lever could come in for Dilley and Gooch for Miller, and Brearley may have to go back to opening with Boycott.

The position in the one-day cup, which is being continued here tomorrow when Australia play West Indies again, is that England have six points from three matches, West Indies two from three matches and Australia two from four matches. The Australian batsman and bowler who did best for them in their last one-day match, Laughlin and Walker respectively, have both been dropped from their side tomorrow, another example of selectorial capriciousness. Already Australia have played or chosen for consideration no fewer than 20 players for their one-day games.

Lloyd fit: The West Indies' hopes of improving their position in the one-day triangular cricket tournament have been improved by the fact that they will be at full strength for tomorrow's night match here against Australia, Reuter reports. Willie Rodriguez, the West Indies manager, said: "Tomorrow is our chance to jump into consideration for the final and catch up with England's commanding points lead."

The top two teams after a series of eight games will meet in the final to be decided over a further three matches. Rodriguez said all the West Indians were fit, including recent casualties, Clive Lloyd, the captain, and Vivian Richards. Lloyd has had an exploratory operation on his right knee and Richards has been suffering from hip and groin trouble.

Mr Rodriguez said: "They are both remarkably fit athletes and are moving with ease. We have our full strength to pick from and won't make a final choice until the morning of the match when we look at the wicket and weather."

AUSTRALIA (from): G. Chappell (captain), K. Hughes, J. Wiener, B. Laird, A. Border, T. Chappell, R. Marsh, D. Lillee, G. Dymock, J. Thomson, R. Hogg, L. Pascoe.

A case of ducks: England's Test batsmen have never had as many ducks as on the present Australian tour.

One of Britain's leading producers is again awarding a case of ducks for a century, the most runs and the most wickets by England cricketers. Single ducks are given as a consolation for getting a "duck".

According to the scoreboard at Cherry Valley Farms in Lincoln, Boycott has so far won four cases, Willey three, Underwood two and Gooch and Botham one each.

Out and in: Thomson has been dropped for Melbourne but picked for Sydney by Australia.

India end lean years at last against Pakistan

Bombay, Dec 20.—India swept to their first cricket victory over Pakistan for almost 28 years when they won the third Test match by 131 runs with a day to spare here today. The first two matches in the series of six Test matches were drawn but India finally broke the deadlock after 17 wickets fell on the fourth day.

India, resuming 278 runs ahead with seven second innings wickets in hand, lost their remaining batsmen for 43 and were dismissed for 160. Pakistan, who needed 322 to win, were bowled out for 190. Iqbal Qasim, the new left-arm spin bowler, gave Pakistan an outside chance of victory when he took five of the seven wickets which fell today and finished with his best Test match bowling figures of six for 40.

However, Karsan Ghavri, with four for 63, and Dilip Doshi, who took three for 42 with slow left arm spin, ended Pakistan's hopes. They were saved from a rout by a plucky 84 by Javed Miandad.

Pakistan's chances were lifted in the morning by the splendid bowling not only of Qasim but Sikander Bakht, whose two wickets included the important one of Dilip Vengsarkar, who added only three to his overnight score of 42.

Pakistan made a bad start to their effort to score 322 to win, losing the first four wickets for 48 to Ghavri and Kapil Dev. Asif Iqbal resisted with 26, but when he fell to Doshi, the tourists were 84 for five.

Javed and Imran Khan then made a sixth wicket stand of 61 before Ghavri broke the partnership by dismissing Imran for 19.

Doshi and Shivlal Yadav, the spin bowlers, polished off the innings on a pitch which certainly helped them, but was not so worn or awkward as to cause the fall of 17 wickets in the day.

India's last win over Pakistan was also in Bombay. After that, the rivals played 13 consecutive draws before Pakistan won two games in the series of three Test matches last year.

Ghulam Ahmed, secretary of the Indian Cricket Board, [illegible] denied the charge made [illegible] by the Pakistan Cricket [illegible] that the pitch had been [illegible] either [illegible] the first day.

But Ahmed, who is Abdul's uncle, agreed with his nephew's complaint about the poor quality of the Indian balls used in the match. He said he would ask for a new stock of balls would arrive from England in time for the fourth Test match.

The fourth Test match will start at Kanpur on Christmas Day, not Tuesday.

INDIA: First Innings 242 (Vengsarkar 68, Kapil Dev 69, D. Vengsarkar 58, Sikander Bakht 5 for 56).

Second Innings

*S. M. Gavaskar, c Zaheer Abbas, b Qasim	10
C. P. S. Chauhan, b [illegible]	0
Nazar [illegible]	0
D. B. Vengsarkar, c [illegible] b Bakht	42
G. Viswanath, [illegible]	5
Y. Sharma, c [illegible]	0
Qasim, [illegible]	0
S. Kirmani, [illegible]	7
Qasim, [illegible]	48
Dev, [illegible]	7
K. Ghavri, c Wasim, b [illegible]	7
R. Shastri, c and b Bakht	0
S. Yadav, [illegible]	4
D. Doshi, [illegible]	21
Extras (lb [illegible])	7
TOTAL	160

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—[illegible] 2—[illegible] 3—[illegible] 4—[illegible] 5—[illegible] 6—[illegible] 7—[illegible] 8—[illegible] 9—[illegible] 10—[illegible]

BOWLING: Sikander Bakht [illegible] Imran Khan [illegible] Qasim [illegible] Khan [illegible] Abdul Qadir [illegible] Wasim Raja [illegible]

PAKISTAN: First Innings 175.

Second Innings

Majid Khan, lbw b Ghavri	7
*Mudassar Nazar, lbw b Ghavri	13
Zaheer Abbas, b Kapil Dev	11
Javed Miandad, lbw b Doshi	84
Wasim Raja, c Vengsarkar, b Ghavri	4
†Asif Iqbal, c Viswanath, b Doshi	26
Imran Khan, c Gavaskar, b Ghavri	19
Iqbal Qasim, c Vengsarkar, b Yadav	3
Abdul Qadir, c Binny, b Yadav	16
Sikander Bakht, c Yadav, b Doshi	6
Zaheer, not out	1
Extras (b 2, lb 11, nb 6)	21
TOTAL	190

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—16, 2—32, 3—41, 4—48, 5—109, 6—145, 7—161, 8—178, 9—189, 10—190.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 6—1—26—1; Ghavri 18—4—63—4; Doshi 19—5—42—3; Binny 2—0—9—0; Yadav 6—3—[illegible]—2.

Reuter.

SYDNEY: Sydney University 244 and 158 for 5 (M. Spokes 68); Oxford and Cambridge Universities 182 (N. Popplewell 55; P. Wynn 5 for 27).

Commonwealth Games

Talks aim at clarifying anti-British stand

Brisbane, Dec 20.—Australian organizers of the 1982 Commonwealth Games to be held here will hold informal discussions with the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa at least twice next year to clarify the council's latest anti-British moves.

Colonel Nichols, the organizing committee executive director, said today that discussions with the council president, Abraham Ordes, might be held in London in April and at the Olympics in Moscow.

Mr Nichols said a previous meeting with Mr Ordes in May had cemented strong relations between the council and Australia. He said he could see no serious threat to the 1982 Commonwealth Games. "There are 53 member nations, and we'll be sending out 53 invitations", he said.

The threat came from the council congress in Yaounde, Cameroun, in West Africa this week, with moves aimed at having the planned British Lions Rugby Union tour of South Africa next year stopped. The congress voted to bar all British sportsmen and coaches from competing on the African continent and to continue to press for Britain's exclusion from the Moscow Olympics.

Olympic union: North Korea have proposed holding talks with South Korea on sending a joint Korean team to the 1980 Olympics. They suggest that the talks between sports representatives of the two countries should be in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, in Seoul or at the truce village of Panmunjom on January 17.

The proposal was made in a letter sent by Kim Yu-Sun, chairman of the North Korean Olympic Committee, to Pak Jong-Gyu, his South Korean counterpart. The letter said: "We solemnly propose to your side to form a joint sports team of the North and the South and participate in the forthcoming twenty-second Olympic Games as a single national team, letting bygones be bygones".—AP.

Football

Challengers to Liverpool face uncomfortable gap

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

If there is to be a worthwhile championship challenge from London, then important Christmas and New Year programmes must be well used. This can be the turning point in both senses.

Arsenal and Crystal Palace start with home matches this evening *and would not be too upset if* Liverpool and Manchester United had to share points at Anfield on Boxing Day. The gap between the northern leaders and the London pair is five points, not irretrievable but an uncomfortable bridge to cross at this halfway stage of the season.

The challenge from the Midlands has been given a stronger voice by the recent performances of Aston Villa, whose convincing 3—0 defeat of Coventry City on Wednesday raised them above Wolverhampton Wanderers and Norwich City. But there are so many clubs clustered in the middle section of the table that a few errors over the next few days could cause considerable alteration.

Liverpool's form has not given much encouragement to their rivals, even including Manchester United whose mistakes are rare, especially at home where they are unbeaten. Today, however, the leading two rest, rejoining the contest tomorrow.

The programme tomorrow is small and select with Liverpool at Derby and Nottingham Forest visiting Old Trafford. The only other first division game is at Everton where Manchester City hope to forget the problems of a midweek visit to Real Madrid where they lost 5—2 and had two players, Booth and Ranson, sent off. It remains to be seen whether the Football Association take any disciplinary action against the two players.

Everton's training period yesterday may have been more serious than intended. Higgins and Lyons *collided. Higgins hurt his ankle* and Lyons takes his place tomorrow. It will be the club captain's first appearance for six weeks.

Arsenal's efforts to forget the embarrassment of a League Cup defeat at Swindon were fairly successful at West Bromwich last Saturday but they cannot afford to let points slip at home. They need to take both against Norwich at Highbury today and should find the visiting attack less difficult now that Fashanu is under suspension and Reeves unavailable because of a hamstring injury. Arsenal, working hard to find a *replacement for Brady who leaves* at the end of the season, will announce their team later today. Young and Rice hope for a friendly nod.

Crystal Palace's young manager, Terry Venables, and his youthful team should not suffer lasting *harm as a result of last Saturday's* educational defeat at Liverpool. On paper their match against West Bromwich at Selhurst Park offers an early opportunity to recover their spirits. Albion have not won an away match this season and Palace are unbeaten at home.

Tottenham Hotspur, with only one win in five matches, now face changes in their team including the absence of Villa, the powerful Argentine who starts a two match suspension on Boxing Day. Smith is ill but at Ipswich today Yorath returns after a three match suspension. Pratt, who may have been *dropped, could now keep his place* while Villa is missing.

Three successive league wins have taken Southampton into a stronger position. They are at full strength at Bristol City where there is some local difficulty over scoring goals. Suggestions on a Christmas card to Alan Dicks, Ashton Gate.

Young new world for Cosmos

New York, Dec 20.—Cosmos, of the North American Soccer League, are preparing to transfer the high-priced Marinho, Bogicevic and Tueart. A high-ranking Cosmos official was quoted here as saying that Marinho, aged 28, a temperamental Brazilian defender, Bogicevic, aged 29, a Yugoslav midfield player, and Tueart, aged 30, a high-scoring but injury-prone former Manchester City forward, were being offered to clubs around the world.

Professor Julio Mazzel, the Cosmos technical director, confirmed that the three players were "*negotiable*" and that a "shake-up" was on the way. He said Cosmos planned to get away from signing high-priced veteran internationals and to go with youth, American and foreign. In line with that, Cosmos announced yesterday the signings of Oscar, aged 25, a Brazil defender, and Romero, aged 19, a Paraguayan attracking midfield player.

"The same way every club eventually needs a shakeup to change faces, so do we", Professor Mazzel said. "We did it with our American side of the team and we'll do it with our foreign side.

"This year we must have three North Americans in our lineup at all times", the professor said. "We can't afford Dennis, Bogie and Marinho. They would have no chance of playing: they'd be on the bench. These three players are negotiable. All three have contracts through this season, but their contracts can be sold".

Perhaps the overriding reason for the shakeup is the off-the-field problems with all three players. Bogicevic and Tueart are said to be constant complainers and Bogicevic and Marinho are disciplinary *liabilities*.

£3.5m to curb hooliganism

The Pool Promoters' Association are to pump £3.5 million a year into football, to curb hooliganism and improve ground facilities.

Lord Aberdare is to chair the new Football Trust which will be funded by a donation of 18 per cent of the annual income of about £3.5 million derived by the PPA from spot the ball competitions.

Most of the cash made available will be transferred to the Football Grounds Improvement Trust, set up in 1973 to help clubs improve spectator facilities.

The residue, an estimated £1.4 million a year, will be specifically donated to curbing hooliganism.

A PPA spokesman said: "It will be up to the trustees to decide how the money is spent. One way will be to provide extra finances for policing inside and outside football grounds and travelling to matches.

"It is also hoped that clubs will be encouraged to increase their social projects".

Tonight's football fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

First division

Arsenal v Norwich
Bristol C v Southampton
Crystal Palace v West Brom
Ipswich v Tottenham H
Middlesbrough v Bolton
Stoke v Leeds
Wolverhampton v Brighton

Second division

Burnley v Wrexham
Fulham v Bristol R
Leicester v Cardiff (7.45)
Luton v Charlton
Oldham v Birmingham
Preston v Watford
Sunderland v Shrewsbury
Swansea v Orient
West Ham v Cambridge U

Third division

Barnsley v Blackpool
Bury v Brentford
Carlisle v Grimsby
Chester v Rotherham
Exeter v Colchester
Gillingham v Chesterfield
Hull C v Blackburn
Mansfield v Plymouth
Millwall v Swindon
Oxford U v Wimbledon
Reading v Sheffield W
Sheffield U v Southend

Fourth division

Bournemouth v Northampton
Bradford C v Hartlepool
Doncaster v Darlington
Huddersfield v Rochdale
Lincoln v Hereford
Newport v Peterborough (7.15)
Portsmouth v Port Vale
Scunthorpe v Halifax (7.15)
Stockport v Torquay
Tranmere v Aldershot
Wigan v Crewe
York City v Walsall

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern Division Chelmsford v Dover; Hillingdon v Margate; Salisbury v Waterlooville.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: *Castleford v Widnes.*

Stein starlet thanks his lucky stars

By Jason Tomas

After Scotland's humiliating 3—1 defeat by Belgium at Hampden Park on Wednesday the avenues open to Jock Stein in his struggle to produce a team capable of making an impact in the next World Cup seem limited, to say the least.

During his 14-month reign as manager Mr Stein has used more than 25 players in 11 matches, only three of which have been won—and the pool have become so unsettled that one up-and-coming member was relieved rather than disappointed at not getting a place against Belgium. "I'm glad I didn't play", he says. "I felt sorry for the lads who did, because the team that was picked . . . well, I didn't fancy it".

Mr Stein has had a number of problems, not the least of these being that the Scots no longer have a high number of genuine international-class players.

His gamble in selecting a midfield trio of such young and inexperienced players as John Wark, Eamonn Bannon and Roy Aitken was doomed to failure.

As Mr Stein admits: "It was unfair on the lads. They weren't allowed to sit back and enjoy their football. They needed help but didn't get it."

So where does Mr Stein go from here? It is anyone's guess whom he is going to play in the next match against Portugal in February. David Provan did a good job after coming on as a second-half substitute for Bannon and deserves to retain his place. And it is almost certain that some of Scotland's "old guard" will be brought back.

Internationals will be for home supporters only

The English and Scottish football associations have taken drastic steps to ensure that there will never be a repeat of Wembley's day of shame—the Saturday afternoon in May, 1977, when hundreds of Scotland supporters tore up the pitch and demolished the goals to celebrate their team's victory over England.

The associations have agreed that only home supporters will be allowed in future to attend the annual matches at Wembley and Hampden Park.

Subject to almost certain approval from the FA Council and the SFA Council, England will get no tickets for the game at Hampden next May and there will be no Scottish allocation for the Wembley fixture the following year.

The English FA are usually allocated 20,000 tickets for the Hampden match and the Scottish FA 30,000 for the Wembley one. The decision is mainly aimed at the Scots. English supporters travelling north seldom total more than a few thousand. Scottish supporters usually manage to lay their hands on at least 60,000 Wembley tickets.

London Transport employees have in the past threatened not to operate services after trouble caused by Scots followers and recently a youth was jailed after the death of a Scot on a train travelling south to Wembley.

"We will do anything to try to discourage fans travelling to these games and we have plans to change totally the ticket distribution system", Ted Croker, the FA secretary, said last night.

"We will ask coach companies not to carry supporters and we will try to get the Government to impose sanctions preventing the railways from running specials to the matches. It is terribly sad that we have got to do this, but we have to do something to save the game, which is the oldest in the world football calendar.

"The damage done at Wembley two years ago was not the main problem. It was the sheer inconvenience caused to the public in London by the disgraceful behaviour of these people." The decision was made at a meeting in Glasgow and was unanimous.

Even members of the England Travel Club will be barred from going to Hampden Park this summer. "That is particularly *regrettable, but there could be no* exceptions", Mr Croker said.

"Perhaps, though, one effect of the decision will be to allow regular England supporters to watch the game at Wembley. In the past, with so many Scots wanting to see the game, that has been almost impossible."

If the brave step of the two associations is to succeed, they will need help, perhaps even at Government level. It is practically impossible for them to devise a ticket allocation system that will prevent any ticket falling into the hands of touts. And as long as there are black market tickets available, thousands of Scots will come to London looking for them.

It is not illegal to resell tickets above their face value; and although the police regularly harass touts offering tickets in Wembley Way, there is little chance under the present law for them to prevent such high-priced sales.

The FA and SFA have never asked the Government to make such selling illegal, but until it is, it seems impossible to stop the invasion of tartan followers.

Boxing

New York new proposals

New York, Dec 20.—Boxing in New York State, suspended since December 13, after the death of Willie Classen, will resume next month with a number of proposed reforms likely to be in operation. The chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission, Jack Prenderville, announced the results of the two-week investigation here.

A key proposal is for the commission to computerize the records and medical data of all boxers and officials under their jurisdiction to help decide whether licences should be awarded. Other proposals called for automatic 90-day suspensions for boxers knocked out in the ring, instead of the present 30-day ruling, a compulsory neurological examination for boxers who suffer head injuries, comprehensive neurological information in boxers' medical records

Mr Prenderville added that the manager, corner men, ringside *sible disciplinary action. The* doctors and referee who officiated at the Classen bout all faced possible report said: "We find it incredible that four of the individuals responsible for the safety of the fighter within the ring all failed to see the three crucial punches which most probably caused the grave injuries suffered".

Athletics

Private road to Moscow

Two of Britain's top walkers, Olly Flynn, the Commonwealth champion, and Bob Dobson, the national 50km record holder, have refused invitations to join the special national walking training party for next year's Moscow Olympics.

Apart from training together, members will spend four weeks training in Spain next year and race abroad against top Continental opposition to sharpen up for Moscow. Flynn refused the invitation because he is spending this winter training in Colombia, South America, as part of his Moscow build-up.

Dobson, a civil servant, said he could not spare the time. Peter Marlow, general secretary of the Race Walking Association, said: "Flynn is not really available because of his training in South America and Dobson may join the squad later. But not being in the squad will not affect their Moscow prospects as selection will be based on performance in races."

Leading members of the 11-strong party are Roger Mills, Amos Seddon, Adrian James and Chris Harvey, all Moscow hopefuls.

Yachting

Britain look impregnable

Sydney, Dec 20.—Britain were well placed to win the Southern Cross Cup, despite a first and second by Western Australian yachts, in the second race here today.

The Western Australian yacht, Siska, captained by Rolly Tasker, caused a surprise by taking line honours and also winning on corrected time in the 200-mile ocean race which started on Wednesday. Siska, which took fastest time in both legs of the recent Parmelia race, was joined by Police Car (Peter Cantwell), also of Western Australia, which finished a fine second.

Britain hold a substantial lead after two races of the international series. The British yacht, Marionette, captained by Chris Dunning, was third overall. John Wooderson, a team colleague, steered Yeoman XII to fourth position and the third team member, Ernest Juer, was sixth in Blizzard.

The British team gained 178 points, which took their total to 265 and Western Australia totalled 172 to move into third place with a tally of 213. Victoria collected 146 for a 227 total and second place in the team standings.—Reuter.

Winter Olympic

Iran no longer recognized

Lake Placid, New York, Dec 20.—A total of 37 countries are expected to take part in the 1980 Winter Olympics here in February, but for the first time since 1964 Iran will not be represented, the organizers have announced.

The Lake Placid Olympic Organizing Committee said in a statement yesterday that as the Iranian Olympic Committee is no longer recognized by the International Olympic Committee, and their athletes are barred from the Winter Games, Iran have taken part in the last three Winter Olympics.

The president of the Lake Placid Committe, the Rev J. Bernard Fell, said he was informed that the IOC decided against Iranian participation at its June meeting in Puerto Rico.

In the past three Winter Games, Iran has entered athletes in alpine events, five men participated at Innsbruck, Austria, in 1976, while four were entered in Sapporo, Japan, in 1972, and Grenoble, France, in 1968.

The Committee also announced that Israel had declined an invitation to send competitors to the Winter Olympics.

Tony still looks after the racing side of things while . . .

Why Christmas with the Dickinsons will be no spartan occasion

A marriage of talents that is a bed of roses

By Michael Seely

A unique triumvirate—Tony, Michael and Monica Dickinson—are continuing to churn out their annual flow of winners. Sadly Gay Spartan is out of action. Last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup favourite, whose withdrawal the Saturday before the big race was a blow to all concerned, made a successful start to the season when winning at Teesside Park; but a knock received during that race has developed into slight suspensory trouble. It must be a shade of odds on the horse who won last year's King George VI Steeplechase in decisive style missing the Gold Cup for the third successive year.

The family have a second string to their bow, not only for the Gold Cup but also for Kempton Park's big race on Boxing Day, in Silver Buck. Recently Silver Buck beat Night Nurse for the second time at Haydock Park. The *gelding is second favourite to the* Irish challenger, Jack of Trumps, for both races. Tommy Carmody, the stable jockey, has always insisted that Silver Buck has more potential than Gay Spartan. The Irishman will have a chance to prove his point next Wednesday. Last season Gay Spartan slammed Jack of Trumps by five lengths in this race.

Changing from the red rose of Lancashire to the white rose of Yorkshire has had no effect on the Dickinson strike rate. For 21 years the family operated from Gisburn, a village on the western slopes of the Pennines. Although the area afforded a variety of work ground, they had no gallops of their own. They had the use of their neighbour's field.

In spells of hard weather the horses had to make interminable trips to Blackpool sands and travelling imposes as much nervous strain on a horse as a race. So last year — the season after injuries had forced Michael out of the game as a jockey—the family took the plunge and bought a farm near Harewood in Yorkshire.

Called Poplar House, the property consists of 180 acres. It is undulating land based on gravelly soil and consists of five fields, the biggest of which is 55 acres. They now have all the space in the world to work their steeple chasers and hurdlers. They have also constructed an all-weather gallop. It is one mile round and is made in the modern fashion, that is to say of wood shavings based on gravel, the two materials being separated by a layer of porous fibre which allows the water to drain through and prevents the stones forcing their way up through the shavings.

The move was made in the summer. "We were a little late in getting off the mark this season," Michael said. "The grass was too firm to gallop on. And the all-weather strip had not yet had time to settle."

The horses and their stable staff were, of course, the first consideration. *Forty new stone boxes were* built and 12 of the wooden stables brought from Gisburn in order to accommodate their string of around 50 horses. Fourteen lads sleep in Poplar Farm House itself, which has had central heating installed and a games room made. *Carmody, the stable jockey, and* Robert Earnshaw, who rides quite a few winners for the yard, have both bought houses in Harrogate. Another married lad lives in Wetherby.

Michael himself is living with a friend nearby and so are Tony and Monica. A new house is being built for the family which will not be ready until next year. Tony was a churchwarden for 25 years at Gisburn. "The vicar's a great friend of mine. So I said to him one day 'that lad of mine seems to be spending a great deal of money.'"

"'Well Tony,' the vicar replied. 'You work very hard. You brought nothing into this world and there's nothing more certain than that you'll take nothing out of it. So if your boy wants you to be comfortable and look after you, why not let him do it?'"

The whole family are delighted with the move. "We're looking forward very much to everything being finished," said Tony. "But the work facilities are wonderful and the whole place is so well drained. All the surplus water runs away quickly into the nearby river. The grass gallops are still *in use after all this wet weather.*"

Despite the move, the work is still divided in much the same way. Monica and the head lad, Brian Powell, still look after all the feeding. Tony goes racing most of the time and still looks after that side of things. Michael remains an outstanding judge of the formbook and knows not only their own horses but also other people's inside out. He therefore does all the entries and decides most of the running plans, but—and this is a big but—he still has to test his theories against the *wisdom and experience* of his parents.

The family say nothing about it, but it must be a great relief that Michael has given up race riding. He had some bad falls two years ago, and the doctors were adamant that he had to stop. "Michael's much more relaxed now that he doesn't have to hunt", says Tony.

So all is going well at Harewood. Carmody is a stylish and polished jockey who, despite the shortness of his leathers, is a first-rate horseman. "I know Tommy's had a lot of falls recently", says Michael, "but he's already ridden 34 winners and his strike rate is higher than any other jockey's in the country. So, too, is our total of 27 successes."

. . . Michael remains an able reader of the formbook.

;PORT

:ugby Union

›omphrey is ·ontent o plug away or Bristol

· Peter West
ıgby Correspondent

t has been a hard week for the ıng Bristol forward, Nigel mphrey, who began it as a mber of the last national train- part and within 24 hours ·nd himself omitted, as player reserve, from the teams ıounced for the England trial January 5. Jim Syddall, the and coming Lancashire lock, l partner the Rest's captain, :el Horton, in the Twickenham ne and Steve Boyle, of ucester, whom Pomphrey has ·n keeping out of the count :, is the nominated reserve for position.

'hat leaves Pomphrey no higher n number four in the selectors' s for the job of front jumper the lineout, and he must be ıdering anew—after a good ıe in that position for the ıth and Sopth-West against the Blacks—whether he has a ıre in representative rugby as ıck, or whether he should make ·ermanent switch to flank for- d or number eight.

.is exceptional pace and ngth in the open enabled him make a big impact in attack a blindside flanker on the :land tour of the Far East last ımer and after it was finished selectors encouraged him to : for regular experience in that :tion. But Bristol have a rich d at loose forward and it suits r book to play Pomphrey in engine-room. Mike Rafter, Hesford and Peter Polledri, :e up the present Bristol loose . and good players such as colm Baker and Steve Gorvette having to rest content with es in the United XV.

re was talk before the season ın that Pomphrey might be · to look for a new club. Newport and Bath were mentioned in this respect. But he has stayed loyal to Bristol and he intends to keep plugging away.

"I'm obviously very disappointed to miss the trial," he says, "but I've got to keep trying and hope to prove 'em wrong. You can lose a lot of sleep over a thing like this and worry your guts out. But I think I've got time on my side." That is true enough: he still is only 22.

It looks however, as if he is paying the penalty for his own versatility in a specialist era and sooner or later, if his ambitions are to be fulfilled, he may be forced to make a difficult decision.

There is no question that he would prefer to play as a loose forward, but he still enjoys the battle at lock, a position which does not inhibit him from scoring a remarkable number of tries. There ought to be an exciting future for him on a flank or at number eight, but first he has to learn the chores of the job, week in, week out.

Pomphrey: kicked into touch by England's selectors.

Morgan in line to follow JPR Williams

By Peter West

Yesterday's announcement of a strong Welsh party, consisting of 36 players, for training over the weekend of January 5-6 may confirm the permanent breakup of a famous Wales and Pontypool front row. The loosehead prop, Tony (Charlie) Faulkner, recently recovered from injury and admitting to an age of 36, has been left out. Faulkner's place against England on the last day of the 1978-79 championship, was taken by John Richardson of Aberavon, but Clive Williams the Swansea prop, was on the loosehead side when Wales beat Romania by just one point in October.

Clegg the Swansea lock who was capped against France in Paris last February, has also been omitted. So too has Hutchings, Cardiff's centre and scorer of 17 tries this season, who played for the Barbarians against the All Blacks in 1978 and was a member of the Wales B back division which experienced an unhappy afternoon against their French counterparts earlier this month, at Bourg-en-Bress.

The gifted and versatile Morgan who has played most of his rugby for Llanelli at stand-off or centre, has been chosen as a full back after filling that position with some panache in the Welsh side against Romania. He is clearly in line to succeed J. P. R. Williams in a scarlet jersey. Webber of Cardiff, is the one specialist in the party for this position. The Pontypool full back, Lewis, who has scored 193 points this season, is another Wales B player who fails to survive the experience in France.

Cardiff supporters will be disappointed that their dashing young wing, Yeandle, has failed to get a place: he has scored one more try than Hutchings. But they will be pleased at the recognition of their openside flanker, Lane.

PARTY: full backs: P. Morgan (Llanelli), C. Webber (Cardiff); wing three-quarters: C. Donovan (Maesteg), J. Griffiths (Llanelli), R. Keen (Aberavon), E. Rees (Neath), J. J. Williams (Llanelli); centres: R. Bergiers (Llanelli), P. Daniels (Cardiff), S. Fenwick (Bridgend), R. Gravell (Llanelli), D. Richards (Swansea); stand-off halves: George Davies (Cardiff), G. Evans (Maesteg); scrum halves: T. Holmes (Cardiff), B. Williams (Swansea); props: M. Dowling (Newbridge), G. Price (Pontypool), J. Richardson (Aberavon), I. Stephens (Bridgend), C. Williams (Swansea); hookers: A. Phillips (Cardiff), W. James (Aberavon), R. Windsor (Pontypool); locks: A. Davies (Llanelli), W. Howe (Bridgend), A. Martin (Aberavon), R. Norster (Cardiff), G. Wheel (Swansea); flankers: S. Lane (Cardiff), S. Lilla (Bridgend), P. Ringer (Llanelli), P. Squire (Pontypool), G. Williams (Bridgend); number eights: E. Butler (Pontypool), D. L. Quinnell (Llanelli).

;ridgend and Llanelli take no chances

ndgend the holders of the sh Cup, and Llanelli both le junior sides in the second ıd and neither are taking any ıces. Bridgend, who travel to ıney, the Cardiff and district ue side, field two strong run- . wings in Ian Davies and Lyn ett with Fenwick and Jenkins :ating at centre.

anelli entertain Pontypool ed and are at full strength. :k Quinnell, their captain, re- cs at number eight and Mark glas, their 18-year-old scrum half, is back after a spell in hospital with gunshot wounds, the result of a shooting accident.

Newport, who entertain Gloucester, welcome back Waters, a lock, after a 10-week suspension imposed by the Welsh RFU, because he had been sent off twice in the club's summer tour of South Africa. Gareth Evans, the club captain, is out again for at least a month, having played in last week's cup tie against Pyle following a month's lay off. He limped off in the second half with a recurrence of an ankle injury.

Holidays deprive three clubs of key players. The Bath captain, John Horton, will be in Lancashire. Boyle and Turton, of Gloucester, are skiing and Eddie Butler misses Pontypool's trip to Waterloo because he is going to Italy.

Gala cry off: Gala, one of the leading Scottish Clubs, have pulled out of their fixture with Northampton tomorrow. The Scottish first division leaders will be without 10 players involved in the South of Scotland match against Glasgow and felt they could not send a representative side, so Northampton will entertain Wrexham.

ckets

renn loses attle ! nerves

Roy McKelvie
kets Correspondent

›r the first time this week e was a match that had atmos- 'e and some tension in the ›ols rackets championships at ›n's Club yesterday. In this, ıony Naylor, of Marlborough, calm to beat Alexis Prenn of 'ow by 17—16, 15—5, 15—8 ıe H.K. Foster Cup. The first : probably decided it.

ıylor is a neat pleayer with- much beef in his strokes. Not near the end, by which time ın had virtually capitulated, he begin to kill the ball. .n is an entrepreneur rather a pure rackets player but has ›od eye. You rarely know he will get back or what he will play. He also pro- d a variety of services in- ng a donkey drop—a derisory :e in this game.

ınn had two points for the game at 14—12 and 16—16 Naylor hit winning forehands times, finally taking the game a service ace. Early in the ıd game Prenn was refused ·al lets by the referee Nor- l Cripps, the Eton profes- :l. Perhaps Cripps interpreted law of covering the ball to :trictest degree but the effect to distract Prenn, whose play me sloppy.

is was followed by a ›ughly businesslike perform- from the well built James ›nson of Wellington, the ıd seeded player, who beat n Bourge of Clifton by 15—7, 11, 15—3. Mallinson attacked ›all wholeheartedly though he have an erratic patch in the ıd game when Bourge :d well.

:hard Ellis of Haileybury, the :r and top seeded player, ›rated his nineteenth birthday a somewhat casual win over les Ashton of Winchester by 2, 15—10, 15—12. Unlike ınson, Ashton slogged his way ıch the match. At times Ellis vildly and muttered to him- Ellis and Mallinson have been accepted by St Edmund Oxford University.

K. FOSTER CUP: First round: P. Ellis (Haileybury) beat C. J. n (Winchester), 15—2, 15—10, 12; R. C. Hudson-Davies (Rad- beat [illegible] Reiss (Tonbridge), 11, [illegible]—15, 15—1, 15—5; A. D. (Eton) beat A. Dick (Harrow), 1, 15—1, 15—3; D. J. C. [illegible] beat C. W. H. May (Charter- , 15—8, 15—6, 15—9; A. J. [illegible] (Marlborough) beat A. D. S. (Harrow), 17—16, 15—5, [illegible]; P. Thenener (Malvern) beat R. Drysdale (Radley), [illegible]—15, [illegible]—6, 15—5; J. H. C. Mallin- (Wellington) beat S. C. Bourge [illegible], 15—7, 15—11, 15—3.

[illegible]ENNY CUP: Second round: R. C. (Eton) beat A. W. D. Wilkinson [illegible], 15—4, 15—8; J. Mac- ›ld-Buchanan (Harrow) beat D. C. [illegible] (Wellington), 6—15, 18—17, 17; [illegible] F. H. Pease-Watkin [illegible] beat G. P. Bratcher (Charter- [illegible]—15—8, 15—6; J. Sheffield [illegible] beat M. C. A. McLintock [illegible], 15—8, 15—7; A. M. J. [illegible] (Harrow) beat R. S. Burns (Clifton), 16—14, 15—12.

[illegible]CLEDON-WEBBER CUP: Second [illegible] J. S. Male (Radley) beat R. [illegible] (Malvern), 15—0, 15—0; [illegible] Ford (Harrow) beat J. C. [illegible] (Clifton), 15—7, 8—15, [illegible] C. Anderson (Charterhouse) [illegible] Snurling (Tonbridge) 11—15, 15, 15—7; J. P. Snow (Radley) [illegible] C. W. Snow (Radley), 15—1.

Tennis

Injuries to Mayer brothers give Mottram a place

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Alexander and Gene Mayer, the French champions, have had to withdraw from the doubles tournament to be promoted by World Championship Tennis and sponsored by Braniff Airways at Olympia, London, from January 2 to 6. Alexander, the elder brother, has had an operation to remove a piece of bone from a persistently troublesome right wrist, and Gene wants time to recover from a variety of muscular ailments that afflicted him him during the autumn.

The replacements will be Christopher (Buster) Mottram and, assuming he can accept the invitation, Vijay Amritraj, who won this event with Richard Stockton at Kansas City in 1977. Even without the Mayers the field of eight pairs still includes 10 of the top 16 men in the computerized doubles rankings issued by the Association of Tennis Professionals.

The only competing teams who have previously won the tournament are Brian Gottfried and Raul Ramirez, and Wojtek Fibak and Tom Okker. Peter Fleming and Frew McMillan have both won the event with partners who will not be alongside them in January. This time Fleming is paired with Tomas Smid, with whom he won the Italian championship last May, and McMillan plays with Ilie Nastase, who won the 1970 French championship with Ion Tiriac and later took the Wimbledon and United States titles with Jimmy Connors.

In addition to the five teams already mentioned the field will include the twin brothers Tim and Tom Gullikson, Marty Riessen and Sherwood Stewart, and the British Davis Cup pair, Mark Cox and David Lloyd. The first prize will be £40,000 and even the team finishing last will have the consolation of sharing £5,250.

Amaya refuses to play ball with spectator

Sydney, Dec 20.—A spectator with a football strolled on to the centre court here today and kicked Victor Amaya, of the United States, on the leg during a match in the New South Wales open tennis championships. It happened in the first set of his third-round match against Phil Dent, of Australia. Dent went on to win 6—3, 6—4.

The spectator then kicked the ball in the air and caught it before sitting in a stand. Police soon took him away. Amaya said later: "I didn't know what was happening for a moment and almost lashed out with my racket. It didn't worry me much, just amazed me".

The Argentine top seed, Guillermo Vilas, qualified for a quater-final clash with his practice partner, Brad Drewett, of Australia; with a straight-set win over Russell Simpson. After beating Simpson, 6—4, 6—4, Vilas said: "I've practised with Brad quite a lot over the last couple of days and I cannot find any weaknesses in his game. Some people have suggested his forehand is a bit suspect but I can assure them they are very wrong."

Drewett, who toppled the American sixth seed, John Sadri, in the second round yesterday, defeated a New Zealander, Chris Gunning, 6—4, 6—7, 6—3. Results (Australians unless stated):

MEN'S SINGLES: Third round: H. Pfister (US) beat G. Masters, 6—7, 7—5; B. Taroczy (Hungary) beat R. Case, 3—6, 6—3, 10—8; B. Drewett beat C. Gunning (New Zealand), 6—4, 6—7, 6—3; P. Dent beat V. Amaya (US), 6—3, 6—4; K. Warwick beat G. Hardie (US), 6—3, 6—7, 8—6; G. Vilas (Argentina) beat R. Simpson (New Zealand), 6—4, 6—4; S. Stewart (US) beat S. Clarke, 6—4, 6—4; J. James beat D. Seigler (US), 6—3, 7—6.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Second round: H. Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) beat R. McCallum (US), 6—1, 6—3. Quarter-final round: S. Baker (GB) beat J. Newberry (US), 6—3, 6—1; R. Bunge (US) beat D. Morrison (US), 6—3, 6—3.

Angry reaction at Connors' withdrawal

Melbourne, Dec 20.—Jimmy Connors today added to his long list of withdrawals by pulling out of the $300,000 Australian Open championships to be played here next week. Connors, winner of the Australian title in 1974, told officials that he would not come to Melbourne next week because of injured knees.

The American's injury brought an angry reaction from Lawn Tennis Association of Australia officials. Connors is the third player ranked in the world's top 10 to pull out of the grand slam tournament. The others are Tanner (ranked fifth) and Pecci (ranked tenth).

The Australian tournament now has only two of the world's top 20 players in the draw—Vilas, the defending champion, and Alexander (ranked 19). The LTAA president, Brian Tobin, has called the International Tennis Federation president, Phillipe Chatrier, in Paris to complain. "I want an explanation why the Australian championship, one of the four major tournaments in the world along with Wimbledon, the French, and United States opens, finds itself with only two of the top 20 players in the world," he said today.

Award for Miss Navratilova: Martina Navratilova has been elected the best American player of the year by the United States Tennis Federation.

Miss Navratilova has lived in the United States since 1975 and will be eligible for United States nationality next year.

It is the first time the United States Federation has consideerd Miss Navratilova as an American player.

ORDER OF MERIT: 1, Miss M. Navratilova; 2, Mrs C. Lloyd; 3, Miss T. Austin; 4, Mrs L. King; 5, Miss K. Jordan; 6, Miss A. Kiyomura; 7, Miss K. Stoll; 8, Mrs. K. Teacher; 9, Miss K. Latham; 10, Miss C. Holladay—Agence France-Presse.

Book review

A travelogue that stays on the rails

By Nicholas Keith

If a visiting American, or Frenchman, or Martian wanted to understand the fascination of cricket it might be best to avoid any confusing preoccupation with the rules and lead him, her or it straight to the personalities of the game. There could be no better starting point than Alan Gibson's new book, *The Cricket Captains of England* (Cassell, £7.95).

This is a delightful stroll through the history of the England captaincy, beginning in the reign of Good Queen Bess and a "cricketing" expedition to the Arctic Circle in 1586—who *now* dare say that cricket writers lead an idyllic life, jetting off to sunny climes when the rest of us are up to our larynxes in an English winter?

Gibson traces the development of cricket in the nineteenth century with tours to the United States, Canada and Australasia. He illumines the lives of the great Victorians—the Grace brothers, Lord Hawke and Co. He muses over four eminent Edwardians: MacLaren, Warner, Jackson and Fry. There are the heroes and villians between the wars: we still have not made up our minds about Jardine, the dour Wykehamist who won the Ashes but lost sympathy over bodyline bowling.

After the Second World War the first professional captain and, in the author's view perhaps the best of all, Len Hutton, comes on the scene. Then the stage is reclaimed by Oxbridge men with the amateur look, May, Cowdrey, Smith and Dexter. So we come to the final act in which the tough and successful Yorkshiremen, Illingworth and Close, are a prologue to decline, fall and purgatory under Denness and Greig.

All these names, and many more. Gibson caresses (and/or chides) with his gentle and elegant prose. There is never a dull moment although the author has vigorously protested that he intended to write "a dull book to prove that I am not just an essayist". That sounds as feasible as A. C. MacLaren or E. R. Dexter setting out to play a dull innings.

There is no denying that Gibson worries some of our readers when his reports in *The Times* read more like a railway travelogue than a cricket match. Is it his fault that the dreaded Didcot Junction punctuates every journey he makes? To be serious, Gibson is well respected and well read on the cricket scene—and that information is on the authority of our Cricket Correspondent.

Even if you have Americans or Martians visiting this Christmas this book would make a good gift for any friend or relation whose tastes are cricketing *and* literary.

Athletics

TIBERIAS, ISRAEL: Sea of Galilee marathon. 1, W. Dorrenbacher (WG), 2hr 18min 20sec; 2, C. Salone (Italy), 2:20.17; 3, J. Schirmer (WG), 2:22.19; 4, B. Watson (GB), 2:22.38.

ıow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of piste	Weather	°C
ıce					
[illegible]	35	[illegible]	Good	—	—
›d Huez	110	200	Good	—	—
›onis	30	[illegible]	Good	—	—
›evel	120	200	Good	—	—
[illegible]	10	150	Good	—	—
[illegible]	60	[illegible]	Good	—	—
›ttaz	[illegible]	170	Good	—	—
›agne	150	200	Good	—	—
›ges	[illegible]	30	Fair	—	—
›ontmines	100	200	Good	—	—
›ais	60	120	Good	—	—
[illegible]	70	120	Good	—	—
[illegible]	60	230	Good	—	—
[illegible]	60	150	Good	—	—
[illegible]	40	150	Good	—	—
[illegible]	120	150	Good	—	—
›ZERLAND					
[illegible]	30	150	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	60	150	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	30	100	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	20	150	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
›au d'Oex	30	100	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	70	120	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	60	150	Good	—	[illegible]
[illegible]	60	150	Good	—	-5
Engelberg	50	120	Good	—	-2
Flims	60	180	Good	—	-6
Grindelwald	30	100	Good	—	-3
Gstaad	10	100	Good	—	-7
Kandersteg	30	110	Good	—	-4
Klosters	60	165	Good	—	-3
Lenk	35	120	Good	—	-3
Lenzerheide	80	130	Good	—	-5
Les Diablerets	50	100	Good	—	-5
Leysin	30	100	Good	—	-6
Murren	70	[illegible]	Good	—	-6
Pontresina	60	100	Good	—	-6
Saas-Fee	60	160	Good	—	-8
St Cergue	10	50	Good	—	-12
St Moritz	40	70	Good	—	-15
Savognin	30	110	Good	—	-4
Verbier	30	120	Good	—	-10
Villars	10	100	Good	—	-1
Wengen	20	100	Good	—	-3
Wildhaus	30	50	Good	—	-2
Zermatt	80	180	Good	—	-10

L, lower slopes. U, upper slopes

Skiing

VAL D'ISERE: Individual parallel slalom: A. Ayles (Cambridge) beat M. Kary (Oxford).

For the record

Ice hockey

LAKE PLACID, NEW YORK: Czechoslovakia 3, USSR 1; Sweden 8, Canada 1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Quebec Nordiques 6, Colorado Rockies 3; Buffalo Sabres 3, Winnipeg Jets 2; Los Angeles Kings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 4; New York Rangers 5, Vancouver Canucks 3; Hartford Whalers 5, Washington Capitals 4; Minnesota North Stars 5, Montreal Canadiens 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 0, Chicago Black Hawks 0; Detroit Red Wings 6, Edmonton Oilers 4.

MOSCOW: Izvestia tournament: Finland 4, Sweden 2.

Cycling

MAASTRICHT: Six-day international: Final placings: 1, D. Alland and D. Clark (Australia), 234pts; 2, R. Pijnen and J. Raas (Netherlands), 1 lap behind, 209; 3, P. Seren (Belgium) and A. Fritz (WG), 1 lap behind, 191; 4, G. Knetemann (Netherlands) and W. Peffgen (WG), 3 laps behind, 217; 5, J. Zoetemelk (Netherlands) and U. Hempel (WG), 3 laps behind, 259; 6, W. Debosscher (Belgium) and H. Hermann (Liechtenstein), 9 laps behind, 297; 7, M. Vaarten and S. Tourne (Belgium), 9 laps behind, 176; 8, C. Karstens and M. Venix (Netherlands), 9 laps behind, 156; 9, L. van Vliet and C. Priem (Netherlands), 17 laps behind, 110; 10, C. Van Cerwen and H. Ponsteen (Netherlands), 31 laps behind, 182.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 112, Philadelphia 76-ers 89; Kansas City Kings 107, Washington Bullets 96; Atlanta Hawks 119, Los Angeles Lakers 113; Chicago Bulls 108, Houston Rockets 102; Phoenix Suns 117, Utah Jazz 99; Denver Nuggets 114, Portland Trail Blazers 106; San Antonio Spurs 127, Indiana Pacers 125; New Jersey Nets 122, Seattle Supersonics 113; Cleveland Cavaliers 128, Golden State Warriors 125 (OT).

FOREIGN REPORT

War and peace, not just peripheral questions

Last of three articles on members of the U S House of Representatives and their constituencies

Representative Paul Simon: tackles unpopular issues

Paul Simon, Democrat, is the United States Representative for the twenty-fourth Congressional district of Illinois.

He is 51 and an agreeable, quiet, rather studious-looking man. A journalist and author, his minor passions include Pepsi Cola and bow ties. His district is the southern part of the state which consists of small towns, farms and coal mines, with no big urban areas. It is the largest Congressional constituency in Illinois (about 9,600 square miles) and one of the poorest.

Mr Simon is fairly new to Congress. He was first elected in 1974. Before then, however, he was in state politics for 20 years, including a stint as Lieutenant-Governor from 1969 until 1973. In 1972, he was narrowly defeated in the Democratic primary for governor of Illinois. That defeat he thinks of as "the best thing that ever happened to me".

"I really enjoy the House", he says. "I enjoy being on the cutting edge of the ultimate questions—war and peace, nuclear weapons, world hunger—rather than of the peripheral questions."

He disagrees with the popular view that congressmen earn too much. "A big problem is keeping people of quality in Congress. Last time we had 50 voluntary retirements. Many of those are now earning three or four times what they got in Congress."

He says that explicit political trading, part of the public mythology, is rare. The idea of congressmen saying: "I'll vote for your bad Bill if you'll vote for mine" is, he thinks, "less common than the public might imagine", although "swapping of amendments" on legislation does occur.

Mr Simon's enthusiasm for the House though, is not total. He thinks that perhaps a quarter of the members could be changed for the better. "They're like the first 110 you could find on the street."

Reforms are needed. He would like to see the House leadership with more disciplinary power. Also, he thought serving on two committees was too much. "By the time you add subcommittees the work cannot be done efficiently."

One of his more passionate complaints is against "polling"—the tendency for members constantly to take the pulse of their constituents on issues, rather than make up their own minds. "There is an excessive response to public opinion."

Mr Simon believes that people want leadership, not "polling". He is convinced that there is respect for congressmen who stand up and support issues that are known to be unpopular. Yet, he says, you get congressmen who trim on an issue because they have had 10 adverse letters on the subject.

Mr Simon is lucky that he does not have to worry about risking 10 votes. His past two elections have given him large majorities.

Terry Michael, his press secretary, sees it like this: "We win two-to-one. I judge a statesman as a man who is willing to spend some of that capital on unpopular causes. I am willing to give a man who wins 51 to 49 the benefit of the doubt over the issues he espouses."

Mr Simon does tackle unpopular issues. "I do a lot of things that are moderately unpopular, but when doing things that are very unpopular you have to target." You cannot, he thinks, "go to the well" too often.

He often expresses his views on national and international issues in a weekly column, "P.S. Washington", which he writes for syndication to a number of Illinois newspapers. "I wrote a column last year—that I didn't have to—saying that the Panama Canal Treaty was a good thing. I got letters that were sixty to one against my attitude."

One issue that he frankly admits to ducking is gun control. There certainly seems to be a depth of affection for firearms in southern Illinois that might have seemed excessive to Al Capone. A poll a year or two ago showed 96 per cent of the local people against the licensing of hand guns.

Mr Simon, who says he is still listed as an "enemy" of the National Rifle Association, understands but does not share his constituents' attitude. His "out", as he calls it, is that he will support gun control in cities but not force it on the countryside. "It is", he says "the only way rural senators and representatives will ever vote for gun legislation."

A subject on which the voters and the congressman can readily agree is his opposition to inflationary policies and his attacks on government waste and "useless" federal agencies.

As a member of the House Budget Committee, he is well placed to give his constituents many examples, some amusing, some horrifying, of Washington waste and of his efforts to reduce it.

Those in Congress who calculate odds say that there is a fifty-fifty chance that Mr Simon will become chairman of the budget committee after next year's election.

Mr Simon agrees that the post is important. "This is the gut position", he said. "It is where the real decisions are made. As chairman you really have a chance to achieve something." Also, it "gives one influence outside the budget". On foreign affairs, for example, the Administration cannot turn down the views of the chairman "without thinking twice".

(When I asked him would he not want to try for the Senate, he said that to give up his work on the House Budget Committee to be a freshman senator "would be swapping horses for rabbits".)

Mr Simon is in the district about every other weekend—more frequently in election years. His personal contacts with constituents tend to be through private meetings with individuals or small groups rather than at public gatherings. He will tour the district holding "open office hours", when people with problems can come to talk to him. Since 1975 he has held about 200 open office hours throughout southern Illinois.

"Access is important", says Ray Buss, head of the Congressman's district staff. "It might take a couple of weeks, they might have to wait in line for a couple of hours, but they'll see him."

Arrangements in the district are left entirely to Mr Buss and the Congressman may have no idea what his programme is when he gets off his aircraft.

When I was there in mid-October, it was an "event weekend". This meant that Mr Simon spent the Saturday at a succession of meetings: from breakfast with a local chamber of commerce to a pork and beans supper at a small-town Democratic fund raising. There was no rest, unless the 200 miles or so of driving between events can be counted as rest. "He is easy to organize", says Mr Buss. "For every event we accept we turn down perhaps 10."

The evening was spent in discussion with local politicians. A 14-hour day for the Congressman of handshaking, speeches and answering questions. He was still fresh at the end.

It would be wrong to imply that Mr Simon and Representative Pete McCloskey, the subject of an earlier article, are typical congressmen. There is no such animal. They do typify, perhaps, those representatives who are unwilling to be simply the puppets of their constituencies.

Certainly members of the House are elected as local representatives. What the best of them—all too few—are trying to do, though, is to combine this with a broader outlook: to look after their constituents' interests without having to compromise their own views on wider issues.

It is a delicate balance. And every two years the voters get the chance to let them know whether or not they have "gone to the well" too often.

Ivan Barnes

Small groups of Islamic militants find weaknesses of Zia regime

Mob violence a dilemma for Pakistan

The American Embassy in Islamabad, as staid a place as any Surrey suburb, went up in flames last month. The British Council's library in the adjacent garrison town, Rawalpindi, was also gutted by students of the Islamabad Quaid-I-Azam University, helped by Iranians and Palestinians and a mob, worked up to religious frenzy by the news of the seizure of the Grand Mosque in Mecca.

For several hours the military regime of General Zia lost the initiative and failed to maintain order.

The prestige of President Zia and the Pakistan Army undoubtedly suffered a serious blow. Moreover, there were longer-term implications for the already unpopular two-and-a-half-year-old regime.

Its opponents have now seen what damage can be inflicted on the regime by street violence organized by small, highly motivated groups. Last month's violence laid bare striking limitations of the Army's power.

At first it seemed that the military regime had connived at the demonstrations in an effort to deflect domestic resentment on to the Americans. But it has since become clear that incompetence also played a considerable role. In Islamabad, for instance, the woeful state of the Army's communications equipment was obvious.

President Zia, however, is not anti-American. He shares the conventional minded military desire for friendly relations with the United States, which is needed anyway to ensure imports of vital commodities like wheat and cooking oils. Unlike the Indians, he interceded with Ayatollah Khomeini to release the Tehran hostages.

Among ordinary Pakistanis there are no signs of xenophobia: they continue to be personally friendly towards foreigners and helpful as usual.

But the Iranian revolution poses a major challenge for Pakistan. Pakistan must maintain good relations with Tehran. It realizes that any break up of that country by ethnic groups threatens Pakistan as well. Islamabad has to work to acquire credit in Tehran and the right-wing regime is basically in sympathy with the Ayatollah's Islamic revivalism.

That is why a regime with little popular standing can only proceed cautiously when events like the seizure of the Ka'aba in Mecca puts mass support behind tiny, militant groups. "When people hear of their religion being attacked they don't listen to the Government or the police or anyone," a Rawalpindi shopkeeper told me. He had watched the crowds pour on to the streets on November 21 when special one-page editions of the newspapers and Pakistan radio finally gave the news.

No one can be sure that if the regime were faced once again between protecting the diplomatic community and tolerating Islamic mob frenzy it would choose the former.

Richard Wigg

Food Report

Eating standards take a tumble

When people in Britain looked for cheap meals 10 years ago, they often went to cafés. They sat on chairs, ate from plates, drank from cups and glasses, poured sauce from bottles and sprinkled salt from salt pots. When they had finished, everything that they had used was washed and dried to be used again.

Today the café is a vanishing species. It is being overtaken by a new species of eating house, where the customers stand in front of shelves, eat from cardboard boxes, drink everything from soup to fizzy drinks from plastic beakers and extract all sauces and condiments from tiny plastic sachets. Every container and utensil including the plastic knife and fork is thrown out afterwards.

Such places are symptoms of one of the most conspicuous social trends of the past decade: It is the steady Americanization of the British diet, a point missed in *Social Trends**, the recently published encyclopaedia of the 1970s that was compiled from official statistics.

Anyone who imagines that the appearance of pizza in restaurants and in the frozen-food cabinets of supermarkets heralds a new interest in Italian cuisine is mistaken. It is popular because it provides strong flavour and colour with very little preparation once it has left the factory.

The Americanization of the British diet has, of course, been a long process. We have had baked beans for generations, and fish fingers have been sold here for more than twenty years. But the process has accelerated in the 1970s, a period which has seen fried chicken and coleslaw making inroads into the fried fish trade, while the gammon and steak pie of railway restaurant cars has given way to "Express-burgers" served with sweet pickle on plastic rectangles.

Britons are being encouraged by marketing men to call chips "French fries" and to refer to pickle as "relish". For a quick snack we can now resort to "American-style savoury rice" and instant noodles instead of the traditional cheese on toast.

Such changes are not registered in a survey derived from Government statistics. But *Social Trends* did pinpoint a related process. There has been a remorseless tendency in the 1970s for British families to spend a shrinking fraction of their income on food. It is a tendency which alarms food companies, because when living standards fall, people economize on food so that they can maintain spending on other things. When spending power rises they still economize on food so that they can spend more on other things.

The past decade has been punctuated by periods in which wage increases have been pegged and in which living standards have been static or falling. Yet Britain has ended the decade with a far greater variety of consumer goods than it has ever possessed before. It is true that a colour television set or a versatile camera costs less in real terms than it did at the end of 1969, but many families expect to own a freezer, hi-fi equipment and a small black-and-white television as well.

If they can own all that and yet suffer intermittent cuts in spending power, they have clearly cut their expenditure on something. Food has been the main sufferer, and profits in the trade have been so reduced that many companies have been absorbed by hardier survivors. The markets for sugar and bread are each shared largely by only two companies, while supplies of biscuits and frozen foods are also dominated by a few large groups.

The six largest supermarket companies now hold about a third of the grocery trade among them. Britain has fewer farmers, farmworkers, fishermen, food companies and food shops than it had 10 years ago. The shops which remain are also selling an increasing number of items which are not food because they carry higher profits.

People in Britain want to spend less time than before on preparing food and even on eating it. A little-remarked but important social trend of the past decade has been for the average time of the last full meal in British households to become steadily earlier. A growing proportion of families finishes eating well before seven o'clock in the evening so that it can turn to other things.

Afternoon tea on any day but Sunday is almost extinct: The growing number of mothers who work has seen to that.

Reluctance to spend time on food and the growing availability of convenience foods from the freezer mean that new generations will not need to know how to prepare food. Cooking will become more of a hobby than a daily necessity. Anyone who can follow the instruction to "boil in the bag" will be able to feed the household of the future.

**Social Trends 10*, Stationery Office, £12.90)

Shares of consumer spending (%)

	1961	1978
Food	25	19
Housing	10	14
Transport	9	13

Source: Social Trends

Hugh Clayton

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Nicholas Ashford evaluates Mr Botha's first year as Prime Minister of South Africa

No corpse yet, but apartheid could be dying

Johannesburg

Mr Pieter Botha, the Prime Minister, has received plaudits from two unusual quarters during the past week. First the prestigious weekly journal *Financial Mail*, the mouthpiece of the country's predominantly English-speaking business community, nominated him as its "man of the year", saying that during his first year in office Mr Botha had created the impression of seeking to serve the interests of "*all* South Africa's peoples". Then an independent opinion poll published in one of the local newspapers revealed that 57 per cent of urban blacks thought Mr Botha was doing a good job as Prime Minister.

Such a response from two sections of the community which have been the traditional antagonists of successive Afrikaner nationalist governments will have undoubtedly pleased Mr Botha. For the past year he has been attempting to win their support for what he describes as his "total strategy", a strategy worked out in consultation with his military commanders for the defence of "Christian Western values" in Southern Africa. But for many conservative Afrikaners, whose interests the policy of apartheid is specifically designed to defend, the Prime Minister is becoming dangerously deviationist not only in his words but increasingly in his actions as well. For he has shown he is not only prepared to sup with the devil, but also with the devil's disciples.

The business community proved relatively easy to woo. *For years the captains of industry* have wanted to be loved by the nationalist government but invariably found their overtures were spurned by a *ruling elite whose attitudes to* big business were still rooted in the Afrikaners' post-Boer war mistrust of Anglo-Saxon/Jewish economic imperialism.

Yet suddenly the businessmen were confronted by a prime minister who not only wanted their backing but was prepared to speak out, as he did when he addressed 300 top businessmen in Johannesburg last month, in favour of free enterprise and a reduction of state involvement in the economy. The response of the businessmen was almost uncritically favourable. Even Mr Harry Oppenheimer, the biggest businessman of them all who is also the chief backer of the white opposition Progressive Federal Party (PFP), spoke of Mr Botha's "imagination and charm" adding that he saw more hope for South Africa now than he had for many years.

The blacks have proved much more sceptical. They want to see Mr Botha's words matched by actions before they are prepared to let themselves be wooed. It is all very well for Mr Botha's Minister for Cooperation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, to declare that "apartheid is dead". But as Bishop Desmond Tutu, the secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, remarked, they "want to see the corpse first".

Nevertheless some of Mr Botha's actions, such as his visits to tribal "homelands" and to Soweto, the changes in the laws on black trade unions and the progressive ending of statutory job reservation, have made an impact. The black newspaper *The Post* recently commented that Mr Botha "may yet save South Africa's white nation from destroying itself through greed and the

Mr Botha—a total strategy; and Bishop Tutu—where's the corpse?

desire to maintain privilege at the expense of our people's dignity". Even such a vocal opponent as Dr Ntatho Motlana, the Soweto black consciousness leader, while rejecting most of what Mr Botha has said and done as being "cosmetic", nevertheless conceded that the prime minister had brought about a significant change in white attitudes. "We must be thankful for small mercies", he said.

But are the changes which have taken place or being talked about purely cosmetic? Superficially the answer would appear to be yes. For most blacks the opening up of some restaurants to all races, and the progressive dismantling of racial barriers in sport or non-committal murmurings about amending the mixed marriages and immorality Acts are meaningless so long as their lives are governed by pass laws and the group areas Act. The removal of job reservation was, in fact, largely symbolic as it had already become obsolete. Employers and white *unions* have found more subtle ways of discriminating against black workers. Mr Botha's announced intention to give more territory to the "homelands" does not get over the fact that the whole "homeland" system, the basis of apartheid, is anathema to South Africa's black majority.

But there have been some important changes. Perhaps the most striking is the general improvement in the political atmosphere of the country. First, Mr Botha has pulled the nation (and in particular his own party) out of the morass into which it had fallen with the *department* of information scandal. This is important because for some months the government had become virtually paralysed by the damage caused by the information department scandal.

Mr Botha has also reduced the air of tension in the country. Although the apparatus of repression remains intact, it is not being put into use as extensively as it was under Mr John Vorster, the disgraced former prime minister. There have been far fewer bannings this year and the number of terrorism trials is down by over a half compared with 1978. In this more relaxed atmosphere new black consciousness organizations are beginning to reappear for the first time since the government's clamp-down in October 1977.

Of potentially greater long-term significance is the fact that Mr Botha has loosened the strings of the apartheid straitjacket which had effectively stifled political debate for the past three decades. Although apartheid is still very much the official policy of the government, people both inside the National Party and without are discussing the different ways this policy may develop, and—in the view of some pundits—eventually destroy itself. "Confederations", "consociations" and "constellations" are now the vogue words in political circles.

It is likely that Mr Botha himself has no long-term vision as to where he is leading the country. He is not an intellectual, a man of blueprints. Instead he is seeking ways of streamlining apartheid, of making it more widely acceptable so that his government can have the maximum support to confront what he and his army chiefs perceive as the Marxist-led threat from beyond South Africa's borders.

The key element in this strategy is to give blacks a stake in the system which will encourage them to defend it. But he has to *do this in such a* way that does not loosen the white's monopoly of political power. Mr Botha's strategy is to try to divide the blacks between those who are entitled to reside permanently in "white areas" and those whose homes are in the Bantustans.

By raising the status of urban blacks, by improving their material lifestyles and eliminating some of the worst aspects of discrimination, he hopes to bring the majority of them "on side". Prosperous, well-fed, embourgeoised blacks will, he hopes, be less likely to indulge in Soweto-style riots than the deprived, discriminated-against children who took to the streets in June, 1976. They would also have a vested interest in preserving their higher standards of living against encroachment from the impoverished hordes living in the "homelands".

The Wiehahn recommendations on trade union reform and the Rickert proposals on labour mobility were designed to make apartheid more acceptable and more efficient (and also, significantly, to reinforce the government's control over its urban black population). Perhaps Mr Botha's most important contribution so far has been to recognize that apartheid, if it is to survive in the last quarter of the twentieth century, has to accommodate some economic facts of life.

This means having a more mobile and more skilled black workforce to allow the country to make full use of its hugely-increased income from gold. It also entails expanding the size of the domestic market by putting more spending money in black pockets. The planned electrification of Soweto is not being done to give the inhabitants street lights but to enable them to buy colour television sets and washing machines. This is the sort of logic which appeals to the business community which explains why they were such a compliant audience when they met the Prime Minister in Johannesburg.

Many of Mr Botha's Afrikaner supporters, however, have been shocked and angered by what they regard as a major and unwelcome shift in government policy. Although Mr Botha brilliantly managed to win the party's grudging approval for his new style of government during the recent round of party congresses, *many rank-and-file Afrikaners* made it clear to him they were unhappy about the way the party and country were going. This disillusionment has been reflected in a recent series of by-elections which showed that the party was losing support both to the right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party and to the PFP on the left.

Unlike Mr Vorster, who was too timid to follow through the pragmatic approach he once experimented with, Mr Botha has had the courage to introduce reforms even at the expense of losing support of some party loyalists. But he hopes he will be able to compensate for these losses by *bringing the English-speaking* business community as well as coloureds, Asians and urban blacks into the nationalist laager.

If he succeeds, this would not only radically alter the face of the National Party but possibly, in the longer term, of the country as well. Although it may not be his intention, Mr Botha may have set in motion a process of change that he and his successors will not be able to stop.

The curtain rises once more on Helsinki's Final Act

The first review was dominated by a confrontation over human rights

In his speech to the recent congress of the Social Democratic Party in Berlin, Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West *German Chancellor, spoke of* the cultural and industrial community of all Europe, east and west. He bracketed Oxford, Prague and the Sorbonne, Cluny, Zagorsk and Bergen, Novgorod, Czestechowa, Aachen and Weimar, and the industrial centres of Lancashire, the Ruhr and the Donets basin. We have a common culture, he said, and a common fate.

The same vision is incorporated in the Helsinki Final Act, that lengthy and much disputed document signed by 35 states in 1975. It was a diplomatic compromise but potentially it is a charter for European relations embodying the hope that the massive armed confrontation which now divides the continent can be very slowly overcome by opening up contacts of all sorts—economic, cultural, personal, political and even military—among the states of east and west. This is the context of the much publicized passages making the point that peace in Europe cannot be secured without respect for human rights.

So far results have been modest, though distinctly visible. Among other problems, there are fears on both sides of Europe that too rapid granting of full rights in eastern Europe could destabilize the precarious order on which European peace has been based since the war. But the Final Act will have to be kept alive as a reference point and source of pressure for something like 20 years before its value can be properly judged.

The Act comes up for its second review next year. The meeting will be in Madrid, and the Governments concerned are already deep into preparatory consultations. The first review was in Belgrade in 1977-8. It was largely dominated by the confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union over human rights. Some west European governments, and more especially the neutrals and non-aligned, were dismayed.

They had hoped for more concrete results, particularly in extending military confidence-building measures, but the Americans argued that the whole point of a review meeting was to review implementation and this could not be done without frank criticism. Officials of the State Department still claim that although it was not a happy meeting it was successful.

These transatlantic differences of approach still persist. They were aired at a recent conference of the Aspen Institute in Berlin attended by officials, human rights experts and others from the United States, Canada and western Europe. For many Americans, as they frankly admit, the Final Act is still primarily a document which legitimizes international discussion of human rights.

It was conveniently to hand when President Carter started work on the moral rehabilitation of the United States after Vietnam and Watergate. It was taken up by liberal human rights groups and gradually by right-wingers who abandoned their wholly erroneous view that it legitimized the division of Europe and found instead that it was a useful stick with which to beat the Russians.

It was hardly noticed by the arms control experts although it is explicitly concerned with security and contains provision for the notification of military manoeuvres as part of the wider moves towards greater mutual confidence and "transparency". Nor were European concerns widely understood. State Department experts with European experience were overshadowed by the presidential appointment of Mr Arthur Goldberg as leader of the American delegation.

For Europeans the Final Act is more a political than a legal document. As a West German remarked at the Aspen conference, the review meeting is not a district court at which the Russians are on trial. Nobody could be more concerned with human rights than the West Germans but for them the main question is how to negotiate practical results, which means that the Russians have to get something out of the process as well.

Another West German pointed out that the pursuit of principle led to the cold war, whereas the pragmatism of the German Ostpolitik brought real progress in expanding contacts and reducing tension.

The Atlantic Alliance is now trying to bridge these differences. Americans at the Aspen conference certainly went home with a fuller understanding of European views, so that with luck and further effort there could be more Atlantic harmony *at Madrid than there was at* Belgrade. But some differences of approach under a general arch of agreement may be healthy.

As great a problem at the moment is how to digest the French proposal for a European disarmament conference. This was first put forward by President Giscard d'Estaing at the 1978 United Session on disarmament. Addressed to the other 34 signatories of the Final Act, it was an effort to bring France back into the arms control debate without abandoning objections to the Vienna talks on troop reductions.

It is imaginative and up to date in that it reflects widely shared disillusion with efforts to limit numbers of troops and weapons in relatively meaningless areas and looks instead for broad confidence-building measures covering an area from the Atlantic to the Urals. It is designed primarily to reduce the danger of surprise attack by conventional forces.

The problem for Madrid is that the French proposal could take up so much time and attention that human rights would be pushed to one side. This would please the Russians, for although they dislike the geographical extent of the French plan they would love to spend Madrid talking about military security instead of human rights. Mr Brezhnev has already proposed extending confidence-building measures to include notification of major troop movements, and there are other Soviet proposals floating *around*.

On the western side misgivings still linger. The French want the Madrid meeting to set up an expert group with a mandate to discuss military security. They seem to envisage it taking decisions on its own, and some of their officials say they would be satisfied if this were the only expert group to emerge from Madrid.

The Americans could not agree to human rights being overshadowed in this way. Nor could other west Europeans, who insist on the need for a balanced result reflecting the delicate balance of the Final Act itself.

The foreign ministers of the *Nine, meeting in Brussels on* November 20, issued a cautious statement saying that they support "an approach aiming at the adoption, at Madrid itself, of a mandate setting the conditions in which negotiations can be opened on establishing by common agreement significant confidence-building measures on the military level. . . ." But they also "reject the idea of a détente reduced to its military aspects" and say they "intend to maintain its balance".

Here the matter rests for the time being but it is far from solved. For instance, if there were general agreement at Madrid on military proposals, would it be right to refuse consent because there had been no progress on human rights? Would it be right to trade concessions in one area for gains in another? And what is a proper balance? These are some of the knotty problems that will occupy officials between now and the autumn's meeting in Madrid.

Richard Davy

Geoffrey Smith

Has the U-turn already happened?

One of the favourite political pastimes ever since the present Government took office has been to spot the U-turn. On what issue would it take place? When would it occur? Ministers have gone out of their way to deny the possibility, even uttering the politically fateful word "never". But in one sense might it not have happened already? As MPs disperse for the Christmas recess they might reflect that the prospect offered by this Government now seems significantly different from what it was last May.

There were two principal reasons why the Conservatives were elected: one positive, the other negative. The negative reason was revulsion against the industrial troubles of last winter and consequently a reaction against the party of the trade unions. The positive reason was the hope of tax cuts. This promise went hand in hand with the Conservative commitment to sound money through tight control of the money supply. But it would be misleading to pretend that last May provided evidence of the British electorate's conversion to the monetarist doctrine. The voters did not go into the polling booth happy in the knowledge that in the Conservatives they had found a party that would restrict the public sector borrowing requirement. They voted for a land of enterprise in which personal incentives would flourish again.

Ministers knew this well enough. The justification most frequently offered for Sir Geoffrey Howe's first budget going as far as it did—cutting income tax by so much as to make it necessary to put up indirect taxation by so much as to raise the cost of living index by four points—was that it was essential to perform in office what had been promised in opposition. The budget had to make an impact. It did, and it was followed by assurances that this was simply the beginning of a process. The march had begun towards the broad uplands of new incentives.

But then the picture changed. The Prime Minister and the Chancellor both ruled out the prospect of further significant tax cuts in the near future. The combined effect of the coming recession and Britain's low productivity is expected not only to remove any possibility of economic growth in the next year or so but to lead to an actual decline in the national income. There will be no surplus to be passed on to the taxpayer, and the *pursuit of sound money* has to take precedence over the search for incentives.

Geoffrey Howe: it was essential to perform in office what had been promised in opposition

It is not quite clear whether this is still the prevailing doctrine. The new round of public expenditure cuts now under discussion in Whitehall must be designed in the first instance to bring the public sector borrowing requirement under control and to pave the way for a reduction in interest rates. Will it also be able to provide for more tax cuts? The answer matters a good deal politically. The next budget is in any case expected to include reforms in company taxation. But necessary though they may be in economic terms, they will not provide political excitement to compare with reductions in personal taxes. They will not by themselves be enough to sustain the public impression of an administration of opportunity and incentives.

Mrs Thatcher sometimes talks of having a programme for two or three Parliaments. In one sense she is right, taking into account how slow a process it is to change the course of any highly industrialized society. But political leaders have to bear political timetables in mind as well. In order to deploy her skills in the next Parliament Mrs Thatcher has first to win the next election. This must be held by the spring of 1984 at the latest, and the most reasonable estimate at this time is that barring unforeseen developments the most likely date is the autumn of 1983. Perhaps it might even be in the spring of that year. Whichever it is, there will either be no 1983 budget in this Parliament or it will be produced in very much a pre-election atmosphere—with any tax cuts then being largely discounted as a transparent political manoeuvre.

So there can at most be no more than another three normal annual budgets during this Parliament, in 1980, 1981 and 1982. If the Conservatives are to go to the country next time as the party of incentives that they presented themselves as being last May then they will need to cut personal taxes—not necessarily by much, but by enough to give the public the feeling that the process is being maintained—in at least two of those three budgets. It would be no use hoping that people would retain a warm glow from the memory of the Government's first budget, especially as they would be more likely to recall the increase in indirect taxes—to say nothing of mortgage increases *and soaring rates*—than the cut in income tax.

This choice on personal taxes is critical for the way in which the Government presents itself for the rest of its term of office. If it believes that, with the spending cuts now being prepared, there is a reasonable chance of further income tax reductions in one of the next two Budgets then there is no need for any change in ministerial rhetoric. But if that is not judged to be possible the Government would be wise to recognize the political implications now. It would mean that what had begun in the public eye as an administration of opportunity and enterprise had become an administration of the hair-shirt.

This would not leave the Government without any claim to public approval, especially if it did manage to curb inflation. But if the prospect for further tax cuts is thought to be as bleak as that it would be better to make a virtue of it, to emphasize that the hopes of happier days had had to be abandoned, not just for the moment but for some years to come, to proclaim the dangers facing the country in the starkest possible terms and to hope to gain whatever political reward might be obtained from avoiding the worst rather than achieving the best.

BETHLEHEM DIARY

Season of gloom and discontent

As the not-so-little Arab town of Bethlehem prepares to celebrate its twelth successive Christmas under Israeli military occupation, the attention of the security forces has inevitably turned to the distinctly unfestive subject of urban terrorism.

Just as the biting winds blowing in from the Judean hills and the sprouting of tasteless displays in the windows of brightly lit Arab souvenir shops are sure reminders that Christmas Eve is fast approaching, so is the ostentatious burst of Israeli military activity. For days, soldiers have been taking up positions on the rooftops of all the buildings overlooking the impressive sixth century church built on the spot where tradition has it that Jesus was born nearly 2,000 years ago.

Scores of extra troops armed with Uzi sub-machine guns and automatic rifles have already been drafted into the area, and on December 24, they will be joined by low flying helicopters and undercover men who will mingle with the expected crowd of 20,000 Christian pilgrims.

Two years ago, Palestinian extremists succeeded in detonating a bomb while the festive season was in full swing, and only last month they provided a chilling reminder of their presence when a large device was defused only minutes before it was due to explode under a crowded bus near the town centre.

In Manger Square as in Oxford Street, London, the seasonal glitter (many would say "tat") and the prospect of world-wide publicity seem to have an irresistible attraction for the bombers, be they from an extreme wing of the Palestine Rejection Front or the Provisional IRA.

The house of bread

This year in Bethlehem (a name which means literally "the house of bread") the concern of the Israeli security forces is as great as at any time since the town was seized during the 1967 war. Arab unrest throughout the West Bank has been whipped up by a number of factors, the most significant being last month's arrest of Bassam Shaka, the populist Mayor of Nablus, the continuation of an aggressive government-backed policy of Jewish settlement and the ravages of an inflation now exceeding 120 per cent. As readers of *The Times* will know, the Christmas programme in Bethlehem had already been cancelled earlier this month until the Israeli Government performed a remarkable somersault and sanctioned the reinstatement of Mr Shaka and the cancellation of his deportation order.

Arab funds which would have provided the budget had been frozen because of the protest resignation of the Mayor, Elias Freij and his council. Although the success of the campaign against the deportation order was seen as an unprecedented triumph for Palestinian unity on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, the jubilation in Bethlehem and other occupied towns was short-lived.

"Because of the political situation, this will be a very gloomy Christmas for the Palestinian people," explained Mr Freij, who at the age of 60 is regarded as one of the most moderate and pro-Jordanian of the West Bank leaders.

"How can we be expected to be cheerful when the Israelis are still seizing our lands and trying to impose a so-called

autonomy scheme on us against our will?"

Runaway inflation has added to the sense of discontent which emerges repeatedly when talking to any of Bethlehem's 30,000 inhabitants. Again and again I was given examples of how Arabs in the occupied territories were allegedly being hit harder than the Israelis, who in the case of Bethlehem, live less than three miles away. "The reason is very simple, you don't have to be an economist to understand," said one angry shop keeper. "We Arabs earn less, our wages are not usually linked to the cost of living index and we do not receive the inflation-linked welfare benefits given to the Israeli."

Militancy and resentment

Predictably, the resentment is strongest among the 10,000 refugees living in Dheisheh camp on the outskirts of Bethlehem and among the 800 students at the town's Vatican-supported university. But militancy is also to be found among Bethlehem's more prosperous citizens, often manifesting itself in the type of slogans which seem to have become universal whatever the tongue being used to express them. I asked one well-groomed Arab secretary whether she or her friends ever spoke to the Israeli soldiers who maintain a permanent presence in the town. "Not now, and never in the future", she replied.

Still portrayed by hymn and carol singers as a small haven of peace lying, as Phillip Brooks once put it, in a "dreamless sleep as the silent stars go by", present day Bethlehem is in fact a thriving industrial centre. Although few observers would go as far as Mayor Freij, who likes to describe it to visiting British dignitaries as "the Sheffield of Palestine", it boasts a surprising range of industries from distilleries for a potent local brand of arak, to the only two macaroni factories in the occupied territories.

Grandiose schemes

The mainstay of the local economy are the 200 workshops involved in producing the distinctive local olive wood carvings and in re-working mother of pearl which is imported from the beaches of Australia. There are also 30 knitting factories and narrow streets lined with noisy workshops producing furniture, ironwork and dolls. The extent of light industry has kept unemployment down to a minimum, and along with the one million annual tourists and the grandiose municipal schemes of Mr Freij, it combines to give Bethlehem much less of a run down atmosphere than is common on the West Bank.

Since May, the town has been dominated by an incongruous five-storey building combining municipal offices, restaurant and tourist information bureau which sits at the opposite end of Manger Square from the Church of the Nativity. Known locally as "the palace", the building is designed to resemble a British fortress and comes complete with an Italian-style piazza and elaborate furnishings of the type often referred to unflatteringly in the Middle East as "Louis Farouk".

Although not to everyone's taste, the municipal complex is Mr Freij's pride and joy, and he insists that it enhances the "Christian character" of the town. Plans are now afoot to follow it with a scheme to remove the cars and coaches which now jam the square and turn it into a pedestrian area. A combined multi-storey car park with a 300-room hotel would be erected on the outskirts of the town to take the vehicles.

As with his previous "improvement schemes" the affable Mr Freij (who is a Greek Orthodox) intends to appeal to Christians throughout

Mr Freij: Christian appeal.

the world to raise the necessary finance. But he is not confident of success. Speaking with uncharacteristic bitterness, Mr Freij told me: "They are prepared to give money to Major Haddad in Lebanon to buy guns, but not to us. The Christians all pay lip service on Christmas Eve when they sing 'O Little Town of Bethlehem', but 48 hours later they have forgotten the place."

Christopher Walker

THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

NATION OF HOME OWNERS

nmodious modern resi-
es available to occupiers,
gage guaranteed, extensive
s over docks, lift in service
ten as not." A lot of council
erty on the twentieth floor is
going to be shifted into the
te sector even by the incen-
outlined in the comprehen-
Housing Bill published
rday. The Bill puts the issue
using squarely back into the
ory of matters hotly
ted between the parties, a
ory it passed out of in the
d after 1974, though the
of that bashful consensus
tunately never took legisla-
hape, but it is a Bill whose
s outweigh the difficulties
l create.

Bill's main purpose is to
council tenants the right to
he house they live in, or to
long lease if they live in
. It provides for discounts
to 50 per cent, related to
umber of years the buyer
een a council tenant, and it
ntees a mortgage broadly
buyers who can afford the
ments. It fulfils a direct
esto pledge, and if it is
use of on the scale hoped
will probably bring about
rger redistribution of
ces from the public to the
e sector than any other
al the Government has in

ay therefore be a measure
toric importance. There is
for doubt as to whether it
ork on the hoped-for scale,
w of the present state of
rtgage market and the less
apturous rate of take-up in areas where Conservative councils have already been energetic in promoting the sale of their stocks. But, if it does, it will drastically alter the pattern of ownership and the social role of public housing. Its effects will be mixed, far-reaching and irreversible.

It is clear that many council tenants wish they could have houses of their own: a recent survey by the National Consumer Council found that 43 per cent of them expressed that preference. Many housing authorities are reluctant to concede the right to buy (not only for doctrinaire reasons: an inquiry recently made by Shelter suggested that about a third of Conservative councils also resist it). So the only way to ensure that all tenants who wish to buy may do so is to remove the council's right to block sales. This withdraws a very important discretion from local government—more important than the discretion to set rent levels taken away by the 1972 Act and later restored: once sold, houses are gone for good.

Some tenants will always be unable for one reason or another to take on the responsibilities of ownership. Local authorities have a statutory duty to house homeless people in their areas. The enfranchisement of tenants may tend to leave councils with their less attractive properties on their hands and thus reinforce both the discomforts and the stigma of poverty. The Bill takes note of some extreme cases by safeguarding housing specially adapted for the old and handicapped, and housing in areas of natural beauty vulnerable to the weekend cottage market (the safeguards in the latter case are quite inadequate, however).

The problem is much wider, but in most areas it is unlikely that sales will be so many that councils will actually be unable to fulfil their responsibilities. Some homes whose new owners may be unable to maintain them adequately may pass into the owner-occupied sector (which already today includes a disturbing amount of housing in poor condition). The welcome relaxation proposed in red tape surrounding grants for repair and improvement may help to reduce the risk.

These dangers are real, but they are dangers worth incurring for the sake of achieving a major shift of economic power into the hands of the individual, with all that means in terms of self-respect, freedom and mobility. The Bill is in effect a programme to extend the area of the bourgeoisie, even at the cost of sharpening to some extent the difference between the property-owning majority and a minority which, because smaller, can be assisted by the rest of society with less misdirection of resources. Other proposals in the Bill should do much to mitigate the bureaucratic vexations of life on a council estate. The Bill is a bold gesture of confidence in a particular idea of society. It should be of benefit to many: but society has a duty to ensure that the advantages of the many are not bought at the cost of greater hardship for the few.

NFRONTING THE CONFUCIAN LEGACY

is an interesting compari-
be drawn between South
s hesitant move away from
a of Park Chung Hee and
move from the era of
se-tung. The comparison
seem perverse if the past
years alone are examined.
a thousand or more years
tinuous political tradition
eir weight their influence
to be weighed against a
thirty.

e time of the Korean War
easy to read East Asia as
divided between commu-
and anti-communists: on
e China, North Korea and
etminh guerrillas; on the
Japan, Taiwan, South
and the French-supported
Government.

e divisions faded with the
ce in Korea and the Sino-
dispute. They were re-
in the sixties by an
obvious divide, with gal-
capitalist growth facing
al and bureaucratic slug-
s. The Chinese are now
o willing to admit that
conomy lost ground all
the years of Maoist-
ted struggle.

side the divisions of the
irty years and common
s emerge between China
th Korea. Both countries
e same sort of crisis in
a leader. The long
of the Confucian state
its failure to contrive
transfers of power.
Chinese dynasty suc-
another by civil war or
r from outside. Succes-
one emperor to another
lso be violent. Neither
nor Korea (North or
has yet evolved a form of
at can avoid this kind of upheaval. In the past this could be explained away by moral failure; in the twentieth century western democracy as a mode of government is an example that can no longer be ignored. Both countries are now wrestling with it.

In China in 1976 the secretly planned arrest of the gang of four avoided the risk of much worse violence. In Korea the outcome is still uncertain. Certainly the assassination of President Park came as a complete surprise. Events since then in Seoul have been as much hidden from the outside world as have any machinations in the Chinese politburo. In both countries the need for change was strongly felt. In neither did there exist any electorate or representative assembly that could give effect to it.

After three years the Chinese leaders are at least insisting that the affairs of the communist party shall be conducted by democratic and constitutional rules, not by Maoist gerrymandering. Beyond the party itself any more widespread power granted to electors is shirked as likely to lead to "anarchy". Behind the convenient screen of "democratic centralism" the old totalitarian instincts live on. The same may be true of Korea where President Park and no doubt many of the generals looked upon political freedom as much too risky to play with.

Yet the demand may be just as strong as it has been shown to be in China. It would be surprising if a highly educated urban middle class such as has multiplied in two decades of economic growth will be content once again to knuckle under to the kind of repression to which President Park always turned when faced with troublesome opposition. Unlike China, which can go on in its lordly ways without being disturbed by foreign comment, the government in Seoul is very differently placed. At all times since the country emerged from its divided post-war occupation the southern half has been dependent on American military power and the assurance of American support in many other less tangible ways. Consequently the demand for democracy has been able to look for support to the United States, and of late that support has been much more active.

The drugging and seizure of the opposition leader Mr Kim Dae Jung in 1976 caused some concern in America. The revelations of wholesale bribery of congressmen in Washington by a Korean official has stimulated much more opposition to Korean government. With President Carter's interest in human rights Korea's failings have been very much before the American public. Not that they can hope directly to affect the drawing up of a new constitution which the well-meaning President Choi Kyu Hah has promised. The arrest of the alleged assassin Kim Jae Kyu, followed by the arrest of the chief of staff who had arrested him and the dismissal of the newly appointed chief of staff, are all evidence that the army is quarrelling over the succession without much reference to the civil authority. It would be a bad sign if the hardliners in the army succeed in imposing repressive measures that would now be resented even more than they were in President Park's days.

or foreign students

W. E. Ormerod

Government expect to save
y making foreign students
full value of their univer-
rses; although this appears
ntial saving, it entails poli-
sses which need to be
. Some assessment can be
from the use that Warsaw
untries make of university
n.

Soviet Union (population
there are about 700,000
in some 60 universities,
the United Kingdom there
,000 students in 44 univer-
In 1960 the "Patrice
a Peoples Friendship Uni-
was created specifically
aining and indoctrinating
from the Third World:
s staff is 1,600 and students
iverpool University, for com-
has 970 staff and 7,700 stu-
he Soviet Union thus gives
ty education to a smaller
ion of its nationals than our-
yet is prepared to make
arrangements for Third
students.

ngs with medical graduates
ff of "Lumumba", abroad
courses in this school, sug-
at academic standards are
there is evidence that the
ties now recognize this by
more foreign students to
niversities.

correspondent, Mr Timothy
s (November 22) suggests
standards and lack of free-
ay defeat the objective of
rsaw Pact in providing free
n, yet it is likely that
authoritarian regimes and
educational opportunity in
rd World are such powerful
forces that low standards
accepted by prospective
s.

ubtedly the higher standards
sh universities have hitherto
n important attraction, de-
he decreasing subsidy, but
at all subsidy is to be
d, the attraction of fully sub-
courses from universities of
the Warsaw Pact becomes irresistible.

The Government should consider carefully the political consequences of withdrawing the subsidy and the probable effect of this action in ensuring that future leaders of the Third World have been educated in communist universities.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
W. E. ORMEROD,
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,
Keppel Street, WC1.
December 11.

Policy for prisons

From Mr Edward Healy

Sir, Reference the accusation in *The Times* today (December 15) that the Prison Officers' Association dictate policy to the Home Office, this is not so. Like any other pressure group, they merely influence prison policy.

Your obedient servant,
EDWARD HEALY,
Principal Officer,
HM Prison,
Walton,
Liverpool.

Assisted places scheme

From the Reverend Tony Crowe

Sir, I cannot agree with the views expressed by my old Headmaster at Clifton, Sir Desmond Lee (December 10). The government scheme for assisted places at independent schools is plainly immoral. It will cream off the brightest pupils from our comprehensive schools, be socially disastrous, and perpetuate the class divisions in our society.

Many of our state schools need drastic improvements. Some provide outstanding education. In 1978, at our local comprehensive, Crown Woods, a boy attained 8 "A" levels, 7 at grade A.

Why should the taxpayer support public schools, which can become recruiting grounds for the Tory Party? The present Headmaster of Clifton ended his Commemoration Speech for 1979 with a nautical metaphor. (The old boys are Patrick Jenkin and David Wolfson.)

He said: "We have set our course. The political breeze (with an Old Cliftonian in the Cabinet and another at the Prime Minister's elbow) is favourable. We do not intend to be deflected by gale warnings or red tape or yellow lines. It is an enterprise in which we are all engaged".

There are no old boys on the Opposition benches to mount a rescue operation.

Yours faithfully,
TONY CROWE,
Rector,
St Luke with Holy Trinity Charlton,
The Rectory,
Charlton, SE7.
December 13.

Bolt from the blue

From Miss Lucinda Tollworthy

Sir, There has been a lot of publicity recently about the RAF low level flying around the countryside. Everyone appreciates that this has to be done, but would it not be possible for the RAF to publish a timetable of when they would be in certain areas? This is because they cause a real danger of which I am sure they are not aware.

The other day I was riding my pony down a quiet lane when one of these Jaguars came directly overhead, and my pony bolted with me. I am eleven and luckily managed to pull him up fairly quickly, but had I been closer to the main road I could have had a terrible accident. My brother of nine would not have been able to stop a bolting pony, and could have been killed.

As this could happen to any child in any rural area in the country, would it not be better to take action before a tragedy happens.

Yours sincerely,
LUCINDA TOLLWORTHY,
Arletts Farm,
Meres Lane,
Cross-in-Hand,
Sussex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Answering Vatican charges

From the Subdean of Lincoln

Sir, Dissidents, it seems, are as unwelcome in Rome as in Poland. The reemergence of the Holy Office as a court of discipline in the matter of Professor Schillebeeckx has now been highlighted by the deprivation of Professor Küng of his right to teach as a Catholic theologian. The Schillebeeckx issue has already provoked comment. Among a number of issues, two, at least, have, so far, not been stated.

Last year and during this year the debate in the Church of England over the ordination of women and then the admission to altars in England of canonically ordained women from other provinces of the Anglican Communion provoked one explicit argument among many. It was, briefly, that in the present ecumenical climate there was a risk of jeopardising the relations of the Church of England with the Roman Catholic Church (and Orthodox Churches) by pursuing the ordination of women.

Incidentally, a curiously insular notion, anyway, given that the Church of England must accept some degree of solidarity with its partner Provinces which have already ordained women. The argument, however, was put with conviction. Now I think it is equally fair to say that the present disciplinary notions in the Vatican alarm me greatly.

If those who make a case against the ordination of women on the grounds of a greater desire for conversations with Rome do not equally feel uneasy, then it is important that some of us say how seriously we see this drift. Those of us who care about the principles of dissidence which were, in a deep way, the stuff of Reformation, should not be indifferent to the situation of Schillebeeckx and Küng, nor to the kind of obstacles it puts for us in ecumenical setting.

For, secondly, the ecumenical climate of today is surely about renewal as much as unity. There are several aspects to renewal in the churches. Among these is the emergence of the laity as an essential ingredient in church affairs; another is the increasingly committed sense of social involvement to be found in the churches; a third, for me, is the charismatic renewal. But a fourth is the rediscovery of theology as a task for the contemporary Christian—an expectation that the theologian must learn to work in his or her context and not remain a commentator on historical texts and arguments. Both Professor Schillebeeckx and Professor Küng have richly contributed to that theological renewal and are, therefore, to be seen as serious allies in the ecumenical struggle for renewal and unity.

A struggle now made more difficult by the sectarian attitude of the Vatican. Fortunately Professor Küng does not cease, today, to be an eminent theologian for me.

Yours sincerely,
REX DAVIS,
The Subdeanery,
Minster Yard,
Lincoln.
December 19.

Sacred or profane

From Dr Martin Pulbrook

Sir, As we enter the "Christmas season", Christians must often wonder what their proper reaction should be to the trivial and hedonistic commercialisation which passes today for a great religious festival. How is it possible to reassert the spiritual and religious importance of Christmas against such an unhelpful, even hostile, background?

I should like to suggest one way in which this might be done. The original choice of late December for Christmas was an expedient of the early Church, based on the Roman holiday of the Saturnalia held at the end of the year. As so often happens when expediency, not truth, is a motive, the effects of choosing late December, with its pre-existent secular emphasis, have now rebounded in full on the churches.

Modern scholarship tends towards the view that Jesus was born in midsummer. Would it be possible for the Churches to readjust the religious year so as to hold Christmas celebrations on, say, the first Sunday in July?

The "December holiday" in the last week of the year would no doubt continue to exist in its own right as a time of merriment and feasting, and "Christmas" in July would then become a wholly religious festival, dedicated to the concept of spiritual renewal and rebirth.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN PULBROOK,
St Patrick's College,
Maynooth,
County Kildare,
Ireland.

No runs

From Mr H. R. Harvey

Sir, Following England's disastrous start in their first innings in the current Test Match when their numbers one and two—Boycott and Randall—both failed to score, I thought it might be interesting to see if this had happened in an England test innings before.

I can only find one instance—Sutcliffe and Paynter in England's first innings against New Zealand at Christchurch in 1933. Can any reader find another example?

Yours faithfully,
H. R. HARVEY,
4 The Close,
Broomfields,
Hatfield Heath,
Bishop's Stortford,
Hertfordshire.
December 15.

Heavenly dogmatics

From Miss Daphne Green

Sir, When God reads Barth, do the angels listen politely, eavesdrop or hasten away to sing Mozart instead?

Yours sincerely,
DAPHNE GREEN,
47 Iverna Gardens, W8.
December 10.

The fairness of jury vetting

From Mr E. P. Thompson

Sir, In the interesting exchange between Mr T. G. Talbot, QC, and Professor-Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper (November 29 and December 14) the danger has arisen that two distinct issues will become confused.

Professor Draper cites several authorities for the antiquity of the Crown's right of stand by, and concludes from these that "those who have questioned the legality of the current practice of jury vetting will find that the practice has been part of the common law for 500 years".

But vetting and stand by are two distinct procedures. Vetting might be defined as the procedures by which prosecution (or defence) obtain detailed information as to the records, possible disposition or bias, of persons on the jury panel: that is, investigation of the panel. If we suppose (as, indeed, I hope that we may) that there are no covert means of interfering with the constitution of the panel, challenge or stand by are the means by which either party may eliminate panel members from the jury.

Even Law Officers of the Crown appear to be under difficulties in distinguishing between these two procedures. In an article in *The Observer*, November 11, Mr Sam Silkin, the former Attorney-General, argued that "to cavil at the guidelines [in jury vetting], and yet accept the challenge system, is to strain at a gnat whilst swallowing legions of camels". But of course—unless there are other undisclosed "guidelines" about—vetting would be a futile operation without recourse to stand by. The camel and the gnat must be swallowed together, as Mr Silkin, in his term of office, happily did.

The common understanding of common law and practice, as it had emerged by the eighteenth-century, was that of the random selection of the jury, *as corrected by* challenge or stand by. That is, prosecution or defence could remove from the jury persons who by reason of occupation, known history or prejudice, etc, might be supposed to be biased.

In the smaller communities of those days, with a limited property qualification for jurors, both defence and prosecution clearly knew something about members of the panel, whether by enquiry or hearsay. Historians who consult trial records, especially in sensitive cases (such as treason, seditious libel, and the rights of the press), often turn up evidence of this.

What is different now is that—especially since the extension of jury service to the greater part of the electors in the Criminal Justice Act, 1972—panels are drawn from large catchment areas and are virtually anonymous. Hence vetting has a significance today quite unknown in previous history. On the one hand, the prosecution may employ to the full the increasingly sophisticated records of police, CID, Special Branch, etc. On the other hand, the defence has been progressively blindfolded. Occupations have been struck off the panel list (by Lord Hailsham in 1973), the defence's right of challenge without cause has been reduced to three (Criminal Law Act, 1977) while the Crown's right of stand by remains unlimited; and since the defence (in the absence of employing a legion of enquiry agents) are blindfolded, the right of challenge, with or without cause, can rest only on whim.

It is true that Mr Silkin's "guidelines" laid upon the prosecution the obligation to pass on relevant information to the defence, although it is not clear how far this obligation was honoured in any case. The decision of the present Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers (*The Times*, December 11) to bring the authorization of vetting back into his own hands, pending the reconsideration of the whole matter, is to be welcomed. But his statement did not make clear how far, in the event of vetting, the defence were to have the blindfold taken off.

Your learned correspondents may or may not reach agreement as to the legality of the practice of stand by. But what has changed, over 500 years, is this. From small and compact neighbourhoods of "peers" we have moved to vast and anonymous electoral lists. The defence knows next to nothing of the panel; but (with vetting) the prosecution can bring the elaborate resources of the state, in record storage and retrieval, to bear in their enquiry. This savagely tilts ancient procedures against the defendant and in favour of the Crown. That is why jury vetting must be brought to an end.

Yours faithfully,
E. P. THOMPSON,
Wick Episcopi, Upper Wick,
Worcester.

Spending on education

From the Principal of Waltham Forest College

Sir, We poor second class citizens in the further/higher education sector read with some cynicism the correspondence in *The Times* from directors and vice-chancellors of polytechnics and universities, etc, concerning their finances. Colleges of further education, which cater for the majority of post-school education, have always been left with the tail end of financial allocations. Many of us have had to make do with leaking prefabricated huts for decades and think ourselves lucky to have the opportunity to take over a condemned school as an annexe. We see across the fence the multi-million pound budgets of those institutions, with low staff student ratios, lecturers with incredibly few teaching hours and an elaborate Parkinsonian administration structure. Their hospitality allowances alone would keep schools in books. I have details of university and polytechnic staff with so little work that they have time to take on sizable part time work in further education colleges.

The Robbins Report resulted in a massive expansion of higher education in the late 60s and the 70s, leaving the provision for the artisan that society needs out in the cold. Whilst secondary education went comprehensive, colleges were split up between further education colleges and polytechnics. The result was the concentration on development of polytechnics at the expense of further education. Now one cannot get a plumber or a carpenter, nor is it easy to get any teachers of skills—but there is no shortage of highly qualified applicants for arts and social science teaching. Each advertisement (and readvertisement) for skills teaching, be it catering, accountancy or technology, brings in one or two applicants. Arts advertising can result in a hundred applicants, many unemployed.

What has this to do with overseas fees? The £16-£20 million or so spent by each higher education establishment includes a considerable fee element, especially the advanced further education "pool" and "no area pool" income, much for overseas students. The universities and polytechnics can well survive a cut in their budgets—we are well experienced in this cutting back of budgets of about £2½-£3 million: By making their teaching staff teach their full number of hours, as we have to—some do none at all, or 2-4 hours a week, and have second incomes for consultancy. Further education staff on in-service courses often criticize the poor teaching they receive in higher education establishments and the frequent absences of tutors on private assignments overseas. By making better use of their accommodation — room utilization of 50 per cent for 30 weeks in the year is typical and would spell bankruptcy in the private sector.

Remember too—precious few further education students get any grants at all, but have to pay fees and to survive the year work weekends—no mandatory awards until reaching undergraduate level courses.

The howls from the higher education sector mean that at last they have been found out—which we have tried to tell the Department of Education and Science and education authorities for years. The needs of our society and industry are in the "artisan sector" and any government would be wise to do something about it. We have heard only words so far.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. FULLER,
Waltham Forest College,
Forest Road, E17.

Homeless and rootless

From Mr Martin Davis

Sir, The Campaign for the Homeless and Rootless (December 3) is in danger of depriving the single homeless of the only effective national accommodation resource they have: for although the Department of Health and Social Security reception centres are not adequate to meet most of the needs of their users, they offer shelter where otherwise there would be none. By making a straight choice between total destitution and support of an ineffective law, the Campaign for Homeless and Rootless may well be throwing the baby out with the bath water.

As it stands, the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 contains many substantial flaws, not the least of which is that there is no specific mechanism for appeal against defaulting authorities, which all but rendered the Act ineffective. If, as is suggested, the Government uses the new Social Security Bill to deprive 8,000 individuals of statutorily provided accommodation, can we be sure that local authorities can, or will, take on that responsibility themselves?

I believe that not only will local authorities be unwilling to shoulder the added burden in the future, but that sufficient information is already known to suggest that local authorities are presently unable to provide accommodation for those they are duty bound to help under existing legislation.

The Priority Need Category, (Section 2-1 and 2-2) of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, presently requires local authorities to provide accommodation for single people who are homeless due to, or vulnerable because of, old age, mental illness, physical handicap, and physical disablement. That only 34 reception centre residents were ultimately re-housed by local authorities last year suggests that only a tiny proportion of the reception centre population is re-housable under this important Section.

Yet a report commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Security and completed in 1972 and an analysis of this report by Ms Susanna Wood published in 1976 would appear to show quite the reverse. A survey of reception centre inmates at the largest reception centre (with 700 bed spaces at the time; that is, half the total reception bed spaces for the whole country) showed that over one half of new residents and three quarters of residents attending the centre on two or more occasions suffered from major medical impairment.

If this is so, it is my contention that the Act already encompasses the majority of reception centre users and this can only mean that local authorities for some reason are not discharging their present statutory duty.

The Supplementary Benefits Commission has been in complete favour of unburdening themselves of their reception centre task. David Donnison as Chairman of the SBC wrote in reference to this: "The Government should not be in the business of providing shelter for homeless and rootless people—providing it, moreover, in ways that are bound to stigmatize them, and make it harder for them to gain a footing in normal jobs and normal housing". (Municipal Public Services Journal, 3 November 1978).

The problem is, though, that by dismissing the reception centre service as an anachronism, Professor Donnison and the Campaign for the Homeless and Rootless may well consign the reception centre inmate to a fate worse than the workhouse pauper ever suffered.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN DAVIS,
181 Horn Lane, W3.
December 12.

Arms control for security

From Mr R. V. Cox

Sir, There are many worrying aspects of the Government's decision to allow extensive deployment of cruise missiles in the United Kingdom, and the Prime Minister's refusal to allow an emergency debate in the House of Commons before the recent Nato meeting exemplifies how little public discussion there has been of a matter that is causing widespread anxiety.

Many of us accept unhappily the necessary evil of nuclear weapons in the interest of maintaining a power balance that will serve as a basis for international negotiations. But this evil is tolerable only if there are continual and effective diplomatic efforts to avert the crises that might lead to the use of nuclear arms.

The deployment of cruise missiles is designated as an "updating of the effectiveness of the nuclear armoury"; is it to be matched by an appropriate escalation of diplomatic activity in the pursuit of peace?

If not, we are simply, and without justification, indulging in an increase in our killing-power, and incidentally exposing ourselves to the enhanced dangers that follow from this increase.

One of the increased dangers follows from the mobile nature of these missiles: for any enemy action intended to secure their destruction would result in the obliteration of great areas.

Even in peacetime, their installation increases the risk of tragedy. False alarms, human or computer errors (all recently demonstrated as far from remote possibilities) could lead to dispersal of missiles to what are presumably well-separated launching sites.

I am sure that the majority of people in this country would welcome an extensive and exhaustive debate on whether the proposed installation of cruise missiles is judicious, or a blundering and catastrophic error.

Yours faithfully,
R. V. COX,
10 Kelling Road,
Holt,
Norfolk.
December 11.

Splitting the Labour Party

From Mr Robert Maclennan, MP for Caithness and Sutherland (Labour)

Sir, I appear to be associated by your London Diarist (December 18) with the view expressed by Mr Dick Taverne that a split in the Labour Party is "inevitable or desirable". Perhaps Dick Taverne's hope has fathered that thought. He and I, however, have long differed in our view of the durability of the Labour Party. In 1974 in his book *The Future of the Left: Lincoln and After*, he gave a fair account of my reaction to his proposal to fight a by-election following his rejection by the Labour Party's NEC. He wrote (at p.84), "(Robert Maclennan) urged that if I did as I proposed I could never under any circumstances return to the Labour Party; nor would the Party ever split."

It remains my view that no individual or even group of Labour MPs would induce a split in the Labour Party. The new threat, however, which I certainly did not foresee in 1974, is posed by the intransigence of the present Labour Party NEC who are leading where the broad mass of Labour Party supporters will not follow.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MACLENNAN,
House of Commons.
December 18.

Dam buster

From Mr Geoffrey Rice

Sir, The late Sir Barnes Wallis would have been delighted with the letter from your correspondent Mr Tom Putnam, and his hilarious account of his experiments in the bath to make a bar of soap bounce along the water.

Mr Putnam is in good company with Archimedes and Sir Barnes Wallis in this field, as the latter did in fact use a tin bath in his garden for early experiments with his "bouncing bomb".

However there were two very good reasons why torpedoes were not used in the destruction of the Rhur dams.

First, the Germans had anticipated a torpedo attack, and had suspended huge steel nets in the water ahead of the Moehne Dam to foil them.

Secondly, the bouncing mine used in the actual attack weighed 9,600 lb, and carried a vastly greater explosive charge than any known torpedo.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY RICE,
Chairman 617 Squadron Association,
Glebe House,
Aller,
Somerset.
December 17.

Fly boy

From Mr Hamish Hamilton

Sir, It seems odd that Ms Glenys Roberts (arts, December 19) should have omitted Jean Forbes-Robertson from her list of outstanding Peter Pans. I am almost certain, though I cannot check, that she played the part longer than anyone. Certainly Barrie told me that she was the best so far, and *The Times of India*, where I read of her death, wrote "Barrie's favourite Peter Pan dies".

Yours faithfully,
HAMISH HAMILTON,
35 Cumberland Terrace,
Regent's Park, NW1.

Christmas post

From Mr Nicholas Luard

Sir, I, too, abandoned long held tradition this year and ordered my books from a "Fulfilment Director". He has just sent me an elegant letter saying he can't deliver.

Next year I will revert to the proven ways of childhood. I will write direct to Father Christmas. He was never much of a correspondent—but he did fulfil.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS LUARD,
10 Wilbraham Place, SW1.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 20: The Duke of Edinburgh, with The Prince of Wales, The Prince Edward and The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, this morning attended a Memorial Service for Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma which was held in St Paul's Cathedral.

YORK HOUSE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 20: The Duke of Kent this morning attended a Memorial Service for Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma which was held in St Paul's Cathedral.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 20: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy this morning attended a Memorial Service for Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma which was held in St Paul's Cathedral.

Birthdays today

Sir Robert Armitage, 73; Sir Arthur Benson, 72; Air Commandant Dame Jean Bromet, 67; Lord Caccia, 74; Sir Norman Cadzow, 67; Vice-Admiral Sir Raymond Hawkins, 70; Lord Justice Lawton, 68; Sir Leslie H. Martin 79; Mr W. M. M. Milligan, 72; the Most Rev John A. Murphy, 74; Sir Kenneth O'Connor, 83; Mr Anthony Powell, 74 Light Lieutenant W. Reid, VC, 58; Dr Kurt Waldheim, 61; Dame Rebecca West, 87.

Ceefax facility for the Queen's Christmas talk

By Kenneth Gosling

Film specially shot in Africa will form part of the Queen's Christmas Day broadcast to the Commonwealth this year. The annual message, which goes out as usual at 3 pm on Christmas Day and will be repeated on BBC 2 at 8.30 pm, *will last 17½ minutes.*

Last year, according to BBC figures, 25 million people in this country watched the broadcast, 21.5 million on BBC television.

The setting chosen by the Queen for her talk, already recorded, was not revealed by Buckingham Palace yesterday, or what her theme will be.

Radio and television recordings are being made available throughout the world, and for the first time viewers in Britain who are hard of hearing but have a teletext service available will see the programme, with sub-titles, arranged by BBC Ceefax.

The sub-titles will be shown simultaneously, using a technique first employed in September for a programme called "Quietly in Switzerland", a transmission seen by two sets of viewers at the same time. There are 14,000 Ceefax sets in use and people who want to use the sub-titling facility for the Queen's message can do so by dialling page 170 for BBC 1 and page 270 for BBC 2.

Today's engagements

- Exhibitions: David Garrick's bicentenary, British Library Galleries, Great Russell Street, 10-5.
- The refugee child, photographs, Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, 10-4 (last day).
- A child's Victorian Christmas, Tudor Merchants Hall, Southampton Museum, 2.
- Events for Children: A Stuart Christmas, a practical workshop for children, sweet-making and Christmas garland-making: Christmas in the time of Charles II—a talk for children, Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, 3; Christmas feast at the Tower for 10-12-year-olds: preparing food, costumes and entertainment for a feast and revels, Tower Hill, 10-3; "Christmas Cracker", musical entertainment, costumes, songs, comic interludes and short plays for five-year-olds and over, Round House, Chalk Farm Road, 2.30.
- Concerts: BBC radio presents Christmas party entertainment, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.
- Record recital: "Come Landlord fill the Flowing Bowl", a yuletide programme presented by Walter Redfern, committee room suite, Brent Town Hall, Wembley, 7.30.
- Lord Mayor's civic carol service, St Andrew's Church, Plymouth, 7.30.
- The Academy of Ancient Music: Bach, Handel, St John's, Smith Square, 7.30.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. Brown
and Miss J. H. Dawson
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Brown, of Ardanaiseig, Kilchrenan, Argyllshire, and Jane Hope, *only daughter of Mr and* Mrs R. G. Dawson, of Leatherhead, Surrey.

Major N. E. A. G. Cameron
and Miss F. C. Wolseley
The engagement is announced between Nigel Ewen Cameron, Scots Guards, only son of Commander and Mrs A. E. H. Cameron, of Slindon, Sussex, and Fiona Clare, only daughter of Mr W. D. Wolseley, OBE, Santa Barbara, California, and Mrs P. Miskimmin, of Comber, co Down.

Mr J. M. Evans
and Miss G. H. Dowse
The engagement is announced between Michael, second son of the late Rev E. G. M. Evans and of Mrs Evans, of White House, Market Lavington, Wiltshire, and Georgina, elder daughter of Mr G. A. Dowse, of Woodlands Close, Teston, Maidstone, Kent, and of the late Mrs H. B. Dowse.

Mr L. P. Foulds
and Miss D. P. Donougher
The engagement is announced between Lawrence, son of Mr and Mrs W. P. J. Foulds, of Farnborough, Hampshire, and Danielle, second daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Donougher, of West End, Southampton, Hampshire.

Mr G. A. D. F. Park-Watt
and Miss E. F. Atchley
The engagement is announced between Gordon, son of Mrs Simone Park-Watt, of Cardiff, and the late Mr Francis Park-Watt, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs Neville Atchley, of Esher.

Dr D. L. Patrick
and Miss S. A. A. Beresford
The engagement is announced between Donald, son of Mr and Mrs L. L. Patrick, of Springfield, Oregon, United States, and Shirley, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs J. S. Beresford, of Hindhead, Surrey.

Mr M. S. Young
and Miss P. Dennis-Jones
The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. C. Young, of Whetstone, London, and Patricia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. C. Dennis-Jones, of Livermere, Suffolk.

Marriages

Mr J. D. McCall
and Miss J. J. Milln
The marriage took place on Thursday, December 20, 1979, at St Margaret's, Westminster, of Mr John *David McCall, younger son* of Mr and Mrs David McCall, of Ruddocks Ridge, Windlesham, Surrey, and Miss Joanna Jane Milln, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Milln, of Froglane Farm, Rotherwick, Hampshire. Canon John Baker officiated

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by Edward Galvin, Toby Campbell, Jake Civardi, Matthew Calvocoressi, Lucy Dingwall, Daisy Bulwer-Long, Candida Rawlinson, Jemima McDonnell and Tara and Tasmin Fischer. Mr Robin McCall was best man.

A reception was held at the *Hyde Park Hotel and the* honeymoon is being spent in Sri Lanka.

Mr R. S. H. Shepard
and Mrs P. U. Day
The marriage took place quietly in London on December 19 between Mr Richard S. H. Shepard, of Barn Acre, Nether Wallop, Hampshire, and Mrs Patricia U. Day, of Hornton Street, London, W8.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Alastair Villiers was chris*tened* Katherine Alexandra Hyde on December 20 by the Rev John Westmuckett, Chaplain to the Household Division, in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks. The godparents are Lord Fermoy, Mr Charles Black, the Hon Mrs Piers St Aubyn, Mrs Alan Elliot and Mrs Noel Dobbs.

Luncheon

Mr F. Law
Mr Frank Law gave a luncheon party yesterday which was attended by Mr H. H. Blandford, Mr R. H. W. Bullock, Lord Chalfont, *Sir Kenneth Cord, Mr Norman* Fowler, MP, Mr M. J. Frye, Mr H. K. Garton, Mr J. E. Gordon, Mr H. P. Hart, Mr C. G. H. Law, Mr P. C. Law, Sir Robert Maclean, Sir Richard Marsh, Mr N. Marten, MP, Sir Daniel Pettit, Mr F. M. Russell, Mr N. Scott, MP, Sir Ronald Swayne, Mr K. A. C. Thorogood, Admiral Sir John Treacher, and M R. Vaes.

Dinner

Royal Society of St George
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, attended the annual dinner of the Royal Society of St George (City of London branch), which was held at the Mansion House yesterday. Mr Jack Davis was in the chair and the other speakers were Sir David McNee and Judge Miskin, QC.

Children listening to a lecture by Ann Slee in the sculpture hall of the Tate Gallery yesterday. The painting used to illustrate her talk on colour contrasts is by Matisse.

Duchess of Westminster has a 9lb daughter

The Duchess of Westminster, who is married to Britain's wealthiest landlord, gave birth to a daughter in St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, yesterday. The baby, who weighed 9lb and will be christened Tamara Katherine Grosvenor, will be known as Lady Tamara. She will be heiress to a fortune estimated at £500m.

Mother and baby were both said to be doing well.

The Duchess who is aged 20, went into hospital on Wednesday night, and will stay there with her daughter until after Christmas. The Duke, who will be 28 tomorrow was at the hospital, but did not attend the birth.

The Duke said he was "absolutely delighted" over the baby. "It is the greatest moment of one's life", he said.

"We chose Tamara because we thought it was such a nice name. Her second name, Katherine, is a family name from my side of the family."

The couple, who live at Eaton Hall, Chester, were married in October, 1978, after a two-year romance. The wedding was held at a twelfth-century parish church in Luton and attended by Early Mountbatten among others.

The Duke owns 300 acres of Belgravia and Mayfair, a 900-acre trout farm in Salop, estates in Wales, Ulster and Scotland, as well as in British Columbia, Canada, on the American west coast, and in Hawaii. He also has a 1,000-acre sheep farm in Australia.

Before her marriage the Duchess was Miss Natalie Phillips, granddaughter of the late Sir Harold Wernher and Lady Zia Wernher, who was a close friend of the Queen. Her parents, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs H. Phillips, live at Checkendon Court, Oxfordshire.

The Duke's father, the fifth Duke of Westminster, died in February, aged 68.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Lord Chalfont to be president of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

Rear-Admiral Christopher Bevan to be Under-Treasurer of Gray's Inn from January 1, succeeding Mr Christopher Hughes, who has retired.

Mr Ralph Skrine, aged 55, to be governor of Leyhill open prison, succeeding Mr David Atkinson, who is promoted to Prison Department Headquarters in London.

Latest wills

Mr Robert Wales, of Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury, farmer, who left £1,635,933 net, left £20,000 to the Farmers' Benevolent Society.

Other estates include (net before tax paid, tax not disclosed):

Neuberg, Mr Jochen Gunther, of Willesden, London	£757,927
Brooks, Mr Frederick Charles, of Basingstoke	£149,418
Oliver, Mrs Ethel Constance, of Buntingford, Hertfordshire	£154,429
Barker, Mrs Margaret Kate, of Ascott-under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire	£154,139
Neild, Miss Mary Newton, of Derby	£191,730

Science report

Head injuries: Research into recovery

By Our Medical Correspondent

Nowadays most head injuries are caused by road accidents, and the survivors are most often teenagers and young adults with a life expectancy of 30 years or more. The numbers of those survivors and the extent of their handicaps has *been assessed in a research proj*ect based at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, which looked at the outcome in 479 patients who had been unconscious or had lost their memory for a week or more.

Each year in England and Wales about 120,000 patients are admitted to hospital with head injuries, and about 7,000 are injured severely enough to need a hospital stay of two weeks or longer. Figures from the Oxford study extrapolated to the whole country show that every year 210 of those patients are left completely disabled and another 1,500 are severely disabled.

How long the patients *in the* Oxford study continued to survive depended, as might be expected, on the severity of their injuries. Most of those with no return of normal consciousness had died within a year. With less severe injuries there was often a marked discrepancy between extensive physical disabilities and relatively well preserved intellectual functions, and in such patients life expectancy did not seem to be shortened.

The long-term outcome de*pended, the report says, on three* factors: the age at injury, the period of loss of memory for events after the accident, and the severity of the worst state of unresponsiveness of the brain. Patients who were walking unassisted within three and a half weeks of injury had no long-term physical disabilities. Profound unconsciousness lasting up to two and a half weeks was compatible with a good recovery in children but not in adults. Other pointers to a poor outcome in adults were coma lasting longer than a month or delay in unassisted walking beyond three months. Profound *loss of consciousness for more* than three months invariably resulted in no recovery beyond a vegetative state.

Recovery from mental disorders lagged behind recovery from physical disorders. In adolescents, for example, all those who were no more than confused after the injury made a full physical recovery, but some had persistent impairment of memory or had a change in personality. Mental disabilities had more effect than physical disablement on the chances of return *to work. In general,* children showed the greatest potential for recovery and some continued to improve as long as five years after injury.

When the vast numbers of head injuries are seen in perspective, severe mental and physical disabilities are uncommon, says the report, and energetic treatment is certainly worthwhile, although a few patients do survive with devastating brain damage. Yet even for patients who recover completely the experience is frightening and may cause months of anxiety and apprehension. Greater efforts should be made to provide reassurance and support for patients and their relatives.

Source: *British Medical Journal*, December 15, 1979. 1533.

OBITUARY

MR LESLIE ILLINGWORTH

Prominent cartoonist and draughtsman

Mr Leslie Illingworth, one of the most accomplished Fleet Street artists died yesterday at the age of 77.

While lacking some of the fierce partisan attack and reforming zeal of a Low, a Vicky, or a Dyson, his strength of draughtsmanship and mastery of technique put him in the top rank of cartoonists and illustrators. Illingworth was perhaps the last of the great practitioners of penmanship. He was also an undisputed master of scraperboard drawing and a fine colourist.

In the catalogue of his only major retrospective exhibition of original cartoons held in the Wiggin Gallery of the Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts in 1970, the young American cartoon historian and biographer of Gillray, Draper Hill wrote of him as "simply the finest draughtsman of our time to have devoted himself to editorial caricature".

Illingworth's sturdy figure with pink cheeks, white bushy eyebrows and soft Welsh voice was a familiar sight in the purlieus of Fleet Street and Bouverie Street for five decades. His natural good nature and generosity to colleagues and friends was extended especially to younger aspiring cartoonists and his hospitality was legendary.

Leslie Gilbert Illingworth was born on September 2, 1902, in the Welsh seaport of Barry and brought up in the Vale of Glamorgan. His father was a quantity surveyor for the railway who came from Finghall, Yorkshire, and his mother was a school teacher from Fife, Scotland. Illingworth started drawing at the age of four and developed early a love of nature and animals.

After the Church School of St Athan he progressed by a series of scholarships. Barry County School was followed by Cardiff Art School, under Sir Robert Webber, where he worked for the *Western Mail* in the afternoons in the lithography department printing maps, coloured Rolls of Honour and occasionally flour bags. The *Western Mail* also accepted some sports cartoons and he stood in for J. M. Staniforth the paper's chief cartoonist who was then ailing.

In 1920 Illingworth won a county scholarship to the Royal College of Art in South Kensington whose principal William Rothenstein was, like his own father, a fellow Yorkshireman and who gave him much en*couragement.* Among his contemporaries at the College were Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Edward Bawden, and Charles Tunnicliffe the bird painter. He was influenced by the decorative linear qualities of Edmund Dulac and Arthur Rackham.

After only six months at the College, Staniforth died and the *Western Mail* sent for Illingworth. He went back full time as a political cartoonist at the then princely sum of £6.00 a week. He enjoyed his work and was sent out to draw Court Room scenes from memory, local council meetings and sporting events. During the General Strike of 1926 he made his own blocks for reproduction.

An astute agent in London, Owen Aves, had spotted his work and began to send down commissions for him to supply illustrations for the London market, for magazine's such as *Nash's, Strand, Good Housekeeping* and *Passing Show.*

During the following 15 years he was able to travel extensively. He kept a flat in Paris where he studied at the Academy Julien while sending back magazine illustrations on the Imperial Airways aeroplanes to his London agent. In addition he traveled throughout America in 1927 and 1930. Back *home, his* headquarters was a converted studio in his father's barn in St Athan in Wales and in 1927 through Aves he submitted his first cartoon to *Punch*, an illustration to someone else's joke. Thereafter he became a regular *Punch* contributor for over 40 years. In those days he specialized in intricate bucolic scenes full of meticulously rendered detail, many in colour for the annuals and special numbers.

The commission to draw the first "big-cut" — *Punch's* weekly political and social comment came in 1937. The subject of *Punch* cartoons of this period (two were published in each week's issue) were still in the Tenniel "Grand Manner" and was decided by an editorial committee at the weekly lunch. Illingworth continued to supply *Punch* with "big cuts" until the war when with the retirement of Sir Bernard Partridge he shared the twice weekly task with Ernest Shepard first as junior cartoonist then as principal cartoonist until *his retirement* in 1969.

The advent of war had brought an urgent demand for artists to draw political cartoons for newspapers. The *Daily Mail* was looking for a successor to POY (Percy Fearon 1874-1949), and in 1939 Illingworth was signed up. His association with the *Daily Mail* was to last just over 30 years and span nine editorships. The demands of the daily newspaper deadlines brought a new simplicity of style and target. Party politics were repressed and the common enemy assailed. At the end of the war some of Illingworth's cuttings were found in a safe in Hitler's bunker.

Production during the war period was considerable—three or four cartoons a week for the newspaper with the weekly full-page drawing for *Punch* (a full day's work) togethe with some book and freelanc commercial work in addition t propaganda drawings for th Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Information. A more personal conflict with the enem was engaged when the cartoonist enrolled in the Lan Defence Volunteers and serve as a gunner with the Hom Guard Battery Z in an anti aircraft unit in Hyde Park Illingworth's politics did no diverge too far from the *Daily Mail's* Tory alignment and hi personal outlook was pragmatic with a native distrust o zealots of all parties. Wherea the *Punch* cartoons were committee-inspired, the *Mail* gav limited editorial rein to hi prolific flow of powerful an satirical compositions.

It was not until the *Punc* editorship of Malcolm Muggeridge (1953-57) that Illingworth found his most inspiring and incisive direction and thi collaboration produced many o his most powerful and best remembered drawings. Th most controversial was the picture of the aging Churchill entitled "Man Goeth Forth unt his Work and his Labour unt the Evening" suggesting that i was time he retired, which caused widespread indignatio among Conservative publicist and politicians and caused a row between the editor and proprietors of *Punch.*

Illingworth's recreation might have been described a the acquisition of homes an the entertainment of friends Colleagues in Fleet Street kne that their most difficult task la in trying to settle their share o the bill before he did. Illingworth who described himself a an "optimistic bachelor" like to surround himself with a ho of acquaintances, relations an colleagues and laid claim to number of addresses—a cottag at Horley was succeeded by Knightsbridge flat; to thes were added a Georgian terrac house in Dulwich and a skyscraper Barbican flat. A specia garret room in Temple Chambers, equidistant from *Punc* and Northcliffe House was used primarily for the unhurried execution of the weekly *Punch* cartoon. In 1976 he undertook a commission to draw some 25 illustrations for *Ripples on the River* by Ewan Butler which continued the characters of Rat, Mole, and Toad from *Wind in the Willows* as defined by Shepard.

In July, 1975, he was granted the honorary Degree of Doctor *of Letters by the University of* Kent. In his address to the Chancellor, on this occasion the Public Orator, Professor W. Hagenbach, described Illingworth as one of the most outstanding cartoonists of this century. Most of his large body of friends would add that he was also the kindest man they had ever known.

PROFESSOR DONALD CREIGHTON

Professor Donald Creighton, *the distinguished Canadian his*torian of his country, died at his home near Toronto on December 19. He was 77. A lucid and perceptive writer, Creighton was foremost among the narrative historians of Canada and was the expounder of what might be called a Conservative view of Canadian history.

Donald Creighton was born in Toronto and educated at Victoria College, and the University of Toronto. Later he went to Balliol College, Oxford, returning to Canada in *1927*, to take up a lectureship in history at Toronto where he was to be based for the rest of his life. He was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1940-41 and a Rockefeller Fellow in 1944-45, and was appointed Professor of History at Toronto in 1945. From 1955 to 1959 he was Chairman of the Department of History and he remained Professor of History until 1971.

Creighton published many books developing the history of Canada from a Conservative *standpoint which was in* marked contrast to the Liberal interpretation of Canadian history which had by and large been *the norm amongst writers* and teachers up to that point. Creighton's view of Canadian history laid less emphasis on Canadian emancipation of herself from British "imperialism" as the major factor in the country's development towards autonomy, and he stressed external relations with the United States, and internal forces such as the Quebec autonomy movement as being among important factors in this process.

His main works were: *Dominion of the North* (1944) which united the three strands of social, economic and political development; *John A. Macdonald: The Young Politician* (1952) and *John A. Macdonald: The Old Chieftain* (1955), two volumes of his biography of Canada's first Prime Minister; *The Story of Canada* (1959); *The Road to Confederation* (1964); *Canada's First Century* (1970) and *Towards the Discovery of Canada* (1972).

Creighton was the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and was appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1967.

HERR WILHELM KAISEN

Herr Wilhelm Kaisen a former Mayor of Bremen and one of the founding fathers of democracy in postwar West Germany, died yesterday at the age of 92. Kaisen had been active as a Social Democrat from the end of the First World War onwards and after 1933 was suppressed by Hitler, upon *which* he retired to farm in obscurity.

After the Second World War he was one of a number of trusted moderates chosen by the Western Allies to help draw up a democratic constitution for the new Federal Republic. In the 1950s he found himself in conflict with his party's official policy when he supported the integration of West Germany into Nato and the European Community. He had been Mayor of the state of Bremen for 20 years.

PROF CHARLES McBURNEY

J. G. D. C. writes:

May I add to your obituary notice a note on the importance of Charles McBurney's work on the world famous palaeolithic station of La Cotte de St Brelade, Jersey? His final years were concentrated on studying the great quantities of archaeological, geological and palaeontological data meticulously recorded by him during the Cambridge Excavations of 1961-71.

The application of modern analytical procedures, aided by the computer and the application of natural scientific expertise and techniques, makes it possible to extract far more from carefully controlled excavations than was possible even a few years ago. McBurney's intense personal commitment has inspired a devoted band of assistants and it is fortunate that before he died he had the satisfaction of knowing that his close colleague, Dr John Coles, had undertaken to ensure the completion of a task of which the outcome is keenly awaited by prehistorians all over the world.

With adequate funding—and despite a promising beginning there is still some anxiety on this score—the processing and full analysis of the data should be complete by the middle of 1982. In the course of this the computer will have recorded a full archive, but the task will not be complete until the results have been adequately presented to the scientific world.

Brigadier Cymric Puleston Prescot, CBE, CEng, died on December 10 at the age of 93.

Memorial service

Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Doreen Lady Brabourne and the Hon Nicholas Knatchbull
The Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, who gave an address, and Prince Edward were present at a memorial service held *in St Paul's Cathedral yesterday* for Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Doreen Lady Brabourne and the Hon Nicholas Knatchbull. Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, the Duke of Kent, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy and ex-King Constantine of Greece attended.

The Dean of St Paul's officiated. The Archbishop of Canterbury pronounced the blessing. Lord Romsey read the lesson and the Bishop of London, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, the Mod*erator of the Free Church Federal* Council and Canon Evan Pilkington also took part in the service.

The Lord Chancellor, the Prime Minister, the Lord Privy Seal, Lord and Lady Home of the Hirsel, Sir Harold Wilson, MP, and Lady Wilson, Mr Edward Heath, MP, Mr James Callaghan, MP, and Mrs Callaghan were present, and the Speaker was represented by Sir Noel Short. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs attended. Others present included:

Lord Brabourne and Countess Mountbatten of Burma, Mr David and Lady Pamela Hicks, Lady Romsey, the Hon Michael John Knatchbull, the Hon Philip Knatchbull, the Hon Timothy Knatchbull, Lady Joanna Knatchbull, Lady Amanda Knatchbull, Ashley Hicks, Mary Lady Delamere, Major J. Heath, the Marquess of Milford Haven, the Marchioness of Milford Haven, Lord Ivar Mountbatten, Wing Commander Anthony Nicholson, the Hon Edward Sloane, Sir Peter Scott, Marjorie Countess of Brecknock, the Countess of Brecknock, the Marquess and Marchioness of Sligo, Prince Tomislav of Yugoslavia, the Earl and Countess of Harewood, the Hon Gerald and Mrs Lascelles, Prince and Princess Georg of Denmark, Princess Margarita of Yugoslavia, Colonel Sir Henry and Lady May Abel Smith.

Ambassadors, High Commissioners and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Apostolic Delegate, the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, Viola Duchess of Westminster, Rafaelle Duchess of Leinster, the Duchess of Abercorn, the Dowager Duchess of Abercorn, the Marquess of Cambridge, Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard (Colonel The Life Guards) and Lady Fitzalan Howard, Judith Countess of Listowel, the Dowager Countess of Limerick, the Earl of Pembroke, the Earl and Countess of Meath, the Earl of Mexborough, Patricia Countess Jellicoe, Earl and Countess Inchcape, Sybil Countess Fortescue, Countess Cawdor.

Earl and Countess St Aldwyn, the Earl of Selkirk, QC, and the Countess of Selkirk, Countess Beauchamp, the Earl and Countess of Airlie, Viscount Watkinson, Viscount De L'Isle, VC *(Order of the Garter)* and Viscountess De L'Isle, Viscount and Viscountess Esher, Viscountess Montgomery of Alamein, the Dowager Viscountess Hambleden, Lady Diana Cooper, Aileen Viscountess Slim, Viscount and Viscountess Slim, Bishop and Mrs L. Fleming, the Lord Chamberlain (Royal Victorian Order) and Lady Maclean, Lord and Lady Astor of Hever, the Dowager Lady Wakehurst, Lord and Lady Adeane, Lord and Lady Killearn, Lady Dugan of Victoria, Lord and Lady Delfont, Lord and Lady Grade.

Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, the Dowager Lady Ellenborough, Lord Zuckerman, OM, Lady Parker of Waddington, Lord Mishcon and Lord Peart (representing HM Opposition in the House of Lords), Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Lady Hailes, Lord Hankey (United World Colleges) and Lady Hankey, Lady Illingworth, Lord and Lady Gore-Booth, Lady Caccia, Lord and Lady Rooth, Lady Cecia, Lord and Lady Crathorne, Lord Charteris of Amisfield, *Lady Cecil,* Lord and Lady Butler of Saffron Walden, Lord and Lady Buxton of Alsa, Lord and Lady Boyd-Carpenter, Lord and Lady Aldington, Lord Armstrong of Sanderstead, Mrs Donald Coggan, Mrs Gerald Ellison, the Chief Rabbi, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Industry, the Secretary of State for Defence and Mrs Pym.

The Secretary of State for Scotland, the Secretary of State for Wales, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Mrs Atkins, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Mr Merlyn Rees, MP, and Mrs Rees, Mr Anthony Stoddart, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster; Lady Jane *Wellesley,* Lady Prudence Loudon, Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, Lady Moyra Browne, Lady Sarah Cumming-Bruce, Lady Anne Mackenzie, the Hon David and Mrs Dugdale, the Hon Mrs Baring, *the Hon Lady Cochrane,* the *Dowager* Lady Dashwood, Major-General Sir John Younger, Major-General Sir Robert Pigot, Sir John Nicholson, Sir James Cayzer, Rear-Admiral Sir Roger Wellby, General Sir Richard Ward, Sir John and Lady Keswick, Rear-Admiral Sir Royer Dick, Sir Maurice Dorman, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Vivian Dunn.

Lieutenant-General Sir Reginald and Lady Denning, the Chief of the Defence Staff and Lady Lewin, Sir Philip and the Hon Lady de Zulueta, Sir Eric and Lady Cheadle, Vice-Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, Sir John and Lady Read, Lady Russell, Sir John and Lady Lambe, Admiral Sir Henry Leach, Sir David and Lady Lidderdale, Sir Gilbert Longden, Sir Charles and Lady Troughton, General Sir Norman and Lady Tailyour, Admiral Sir Frank and Lady Twiss, Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Tuttle, Sir Connydd Traherne, Rear-Admiral Sir Richard and Lady Trowbridge, Sir Mark Turner, Vice-Admiral Sir John and Lady Eaton, Sir George Edwards, OM, Vice-Admiral Sir Kaye Edden, Sir Edward Youde (representing the Head of the Diplomatic Service).

General Sir William Pike, Sir Edward Playfair, Sir Michael and Lady Palliser, Sir Michael and Lady Parsons, Sir John and Lady Partridge, Sir Hugh Mackay-Tallach, Sir Jasper and Lady More, Sir David Muirhead (representing the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) and the Hon Lady Muirhead, Sir David and Lady McNee, Major Sir Ronnie and Lady Maudsley, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller, Vice-Admiral Sir Gerald Mansfield, Sir John and Lady Mills, Sir Godfrey and Lady Morley, Sir William and Lady Morris.

Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh and Lady Mackenzie, Major-General Sir Robert Neville, Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Norris, Sir Eric and Lady Norris, the Chief of the Air Staff and Lady Beetham, Vice-Admiral Sir Ronald Brockman (Order of the Star of India) and Lady Brockman, Lady Baker, Lady Balfour, Sir Raymond Brown, Sir Philip Southwell, Sir Evelyn and the Hon Lady Shuckburgh, Sir Charles and Lady Strong, Sir Eric Berthoud, Sir Nicolas and Lady Mabel Cheetham, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter and Lady Cazalet, Colonel Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel, General Sir Desmond and Lady FitzPatrick, General Sir Robert Ford (representing the Chief of the General Staff) and Lady Ford, Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher and Lady Foxley-Norris, General Sir John Gibbon, Air Marshal Sir John and Lady Gingell, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter *and Lady Gretton.*

Sir Donald and Lady Gosling, Lady Gibson, General Sir Ian and Lady Gourlay, Sir Charles and Lady Johnson, Lieutenant-General Sir John and Lady Hunt, Lady Heald, Sir Henry and Lady Hardman, General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson, Sir Arthur Hockaday, General Sir Charles Harington, Lady Holland-Martin, Sir John Hogg (Williams and Glyn's Bank), General Sir Reginald Hewetson (Order of the Bath) and Lady Hewetson, Major-General Sir William and Lady Abraham, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Ashmore, Sir Alexander and Dame Henriette Abel Smith.

Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Leng, Captain and Mrs Douglas Fairbanks, Mrs A. B. Webster, the Director of WRNS, Mr and Mrs Charles Williams, Rear-Admiral and Mrs C. Weston, the Rev David Watson, Mr and Mrs John Wall, Mr A. R. Wilkins (Kelly Reunion Association), Mr Wilson *(Allen and Overy),* Mr and Mrs Eric Weiss, Captain N. I. G. and Lady Serena Kettlewell, Mr Ingall (Peat, Marwick and Mitchell), Mr Ralph Dutton, Major Alastair Donald, Rear-Admiral Cadell (director, General Naval Personnel Services and chairman, Royal Naval Film Corporation) and Mrs Cadell, Mr Alan Campbell-Johnson (Order of the Indian Empire) and Mrs Campbell-Johnson.

Colonel J. Retallack, Lieutenant-General John Richards (Commandant General Royal Marines), Major-General H. E. Roper, Mr and Mrs E. de Rothschild, Mr William Reid, Mrs J. Rowsell, Major-General Desmond Langley (Major-General Household Cavalry) and Mrs Langley, Colonel Lockhart (Blues and Royals).

Lieutenant-Colonel Brooking (vice-chairman, Burma Star Association), Mr John Barratt, Dr Margery Blackie, Dr Guy Beauchamp, Mr John Biffen, MP, (representing the Treasury) and Mrs Biffen, Major-General J. M. W. Badcock, Rear-Admiral and Mrs P. W. Burnett, Rear-Admiral and Mrs F. B. P. Brayne-Nicholls, Air Vice-Marshal D. G. Bailey, Mr D. R. J. Stephen (representing the Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence), Rear-Admiral W. Staveley (Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief, Fleet), Major-General and Mrs D. Beckett, Mr and Mrs Noel Cunningham-Reid, Mr and Mrs Peter Campbell.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs John Chandos-Pole, Mr George Cook, Miss Barbara Cartland, Air Vice-Marshal G. W. Cloutman, Rear-Admiral A. J. Cook (Admiral President, Royal Naval College, Greenwich) and Mrs Cook, Captain and Mrs R. Cavenagh-Mainwaring, Colonel Ferguson (The Scots Guards), Mr Basil de Ferranti, Major Simon Faulkner (The Life Guards), Major-General P. B. Gillett, Major-General Desmond Gordon, Colonel Gausson (The Welsh Guards), Dr Alan Glyn, MP and Lady Rosula Glyn, Mr Cecil Gould, Lieutenant-Colonel A. Gooch (Commanding The Life Guards) and Mrs Gooch, Brigadier J. N. Gibbs (Chief of Staff to C-in-C, London District), Captain L. N. Goddard, Rear-Admiral E. F. Gueritz, Mr Ian Gow, Rear-Admiral Hugh Janion (Flag Officer, Royal Yachts), Major-General A. J. Jackson.

Vice-Admiral E. W. Longley Cook, Mr Harry Lewis and Dame Vera Lynn, Major-General and the Hon Mrs Peter Leuchars, Mr and Mrs Howard Thomas, Rear-Admiral M. S. Townsend, Mr and Mrs William Thompson, Mr James *Emerson, Rear-Admiral E. Ellis,* Mr and Mrs Peter Ustinov, Mr and Mrs W. J. G. Verco, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs H. Phillips, Mr and Mrs Paul Paget, Mr Stewart Perowne, Mrs Charles Page, Prince Franz Wilhelm of Prussia, Dr R. Press, Professor P. N. S. Mansergh.

Rear-Admiral W. J. Mann, Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Mates, MP, Princess Helena Moutafian, Mr Mortimer (Rankin Khun), Admiral and Mrs M. C. Morgan-Giles, Admiral and Mrs J. Moore, Mr and Mrs David Money Coutts, Mr Tom Arnold, MP, Rear-Admiral Anson (Flag Officer, Naval Air Command), Major-General A. A. G. Anderson, Mr R. Lubbock, the Under-Secretary of State (Army) and Mrs Harhoe, Major-General T. S. Hart, Colonel Hume (Irish Guards).

Representatives of City Livery Companies, Burma Star Association, Britain Burma Society, Far East POW Association, SSAFA, Mountbatten School, Hemel Hempstead, Polo Association, Hurlingham, Trinity House, Royal British Legion, D-Day and Normandy Fellowship, King George's Fund for Sailors, Friends of Malta, Sovereign Kinematograph Corporation, Belgian Remembrance Fund, HMS Glasgow Old Boys Association, Chindits Old Comrades Association, Commando Association, Commando Benevolent Fund, Royal Naval Association, Royal Commonwealth Society, Royal Thames Yacht Club, RNLI, RAC, Royal Agricultural Society, Sailors Home and Red Ensign Club, Sea Scouts, Society for Nautical Research, Association of WRNS, Liverpool Seamen's Friend Society, British Academy of Film and TV Arts, St Nazaire Society, Society of Genealogists, Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers, Institution of Electrical Engineers and National Electronics Council.

Memorial service

The Countess of Mount Edgcumbe
A memorial service for the Countess of Edgcumbe was held yesterday at St Andrew's, Plymouth. The Rev John Watson officiated and the Bishop of Plymouth pronounced the blessing. The Lord Mayor of Plymouth read the lesson and Mr A. Gordon Bellingham, Chairman of the Plymouth and Cornwall Cancer Fund, gave an address.

Adams photographic print makes record £10,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A print of Ansel Adams's photograph, "Moonrise, Hernandez, *New Mexico." became the most* expensive photograph by a living photographer to be sold at auction when it made $22,000 (estimate $15,000-$25,000), or £10,000, to a Pennsylvania private collector in Sotheby Parke Bernet's photography auction on Wednesday afternoon.

A little dot of a moon seems almost irrelevant as it rises over the shanty town on its wide plane and distant snow-capped mountains. The photograph was taken about 1942, and this example was printed in 1969; it is signed in ink on the mount and bears the photographer's Carmel studio stamp.

The top price in the New York sale was $45,000, (estimate $20,000-$30,000) or £20,454 for "Ansel Adams: Portfolio VII", a portfolio of 12 atmospheric landscape photographs published in New York in 1976. That is the highest auction price on record for an Ansel Adams portfolio.

The sale also included a portfolio of 16 Ansel Adams views: "Portfolio Three: Yosemite Valley", published by the Sierra Club, San Francisco in 1960, at $22,000 (estimate $18,000-$25,000), or £10,000. The auction of landscape and architectural photographs totalled £132,943, with 13 of 105 lots unsold.

At Sotheby's in London yesterday a private collector bought two of the most expensive items in a sale of clocks and watches. He spent £22,000 (estimate £20,000-£25,000) on a Tompion veneered ebony quarter-repeating bracket clock, dating to the last years of the seventeenth century.

In addition to being the work of England's most famous clockmaker, the clock has a backplate and other parts with exceptionally fine engraving.

The same collector paid £8,000 (estimate £9,000-£12,000) for a small, olivewood, basket-top bracket timepiece by Nathaniel Hodges, of around 1685. The other *big price of the sale was £13,000* (estimate £12,000-£15,000) for a Tompion and Banger burr-chestnutwood, month longcase clock made in the first years of the eighteenth century, when Tompion was working in partnership with his nephew, Edward Banger. The sale of scientific instruments, watches and clocks made £139,695, with 5 per cent unsold.

Bonham's offered a collection of jewelled tiepins for sale, which proved a powerful attraction to Christmas present seekers, totalling £13,172, with every lot finding a buyer.

Church news

Diocese of Peterborough

The Rev A. F. Ridley, vicar of West Haddon with Winwick, to be rural dean of Brixworth.

The Rev J. F. Caiross, chaplain of Sir Roger Manwood School, Sandwich, Kent, to be rector of Barrowden and Wakerley with South Luffenham.

The Rev P. A. Paynton, rector of Teigh with Whissendine and priest-in-charge of Market Overton, to be rector of the new united benefice of Teigh with Whissendine and Market Overton.

The Rev G. B. R. Matthews, rector of Rushton with Glendon and priest-in-charge of Thorpe *Malsor*, to be rector of the new united benefice of Rushton and Glendon with Thorpe Malsor.

The Rev J. E. Pallis, vicar of Greetham with Stretton and Clipsham and priest-in-charge of Thistleton, to be vicar of the new united benefice of Greetham and Thistleton with Stretton and Clipsham.

The Rev R. G. Knight, vicar of Naseby and priest-in-charge of Clipston and Haselbech and Kelmarsh, to be rector of the new united benefice of Clipston with Naseby and Haselbech, and continuing as priest-in-charge of Kelmarsh.

Resignations

The Rev N. Butcher, rector of Barwick-in-Elmet, diocese of Ripon, from December 1, 1979.

The Rev L. E. P. de Casablanca, rector of Woodford with Twywell, diocese of Peterborough, from February 1.

The Very Rev C. T. Chapman, Dean of Exeter, from July 31.

The Rev C. F. Sharpe, vicar of St Mary, Wythall, from February, 1980.

The Ven R. Southwell, archdeacon of Northolt, diocese of London, from February 29.

Canon C. L. Ward, vicar of Kewstoke with Wick St Lawrence, diocese *of Bath and Wells*, from May 31.

Canon E. Wynne, vicar of St Gabriel's Brownhill, diocese of Blackburn, has resigned the rural deanery of Blackburn.

Diocese of Salisbury

The Rev M. A. Ward, priest-in-charge of Chute with *Chute Forest*, Shalbourne and Ham, to be rector of the Wexcombe team ministry.

The Rev H. G. Smith, priest-in-charge of Litton Cheney and Puncknowle with Swyre, to be vicar of the Bride Valley team ministry.

25 years ago

From The Times of Wednesday, Dec 22, 1954

From Our Correspondent

Belgrade, Dec 21.—Mr Vlado Dedijer, who was the only member of the central committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party to speak in defence of Mr Djilas at the time of the latter's dismissal from his party posts early this year, was recently ordered to appear before the control committee of the party. Mr Dedijer, who wrote the official biography of Marshal Tito, was called on to explain his attitude to the issues in dispute between Mr Djilas and his associates in the party leadership, a step which would seem to indicate that he is himself now to be the object of disciplinary action. He confirmed in a statement to your correspondent that while undergoing treatment in Slovenia for nervous and spinal maladies arising from his war wounds he was called to Belgrade to appear before the control committee on Friday. After the dismissal of Mr Djilas Mr Dedijer was seen at various government social events but apparently his position deteriorated after his rejection—three months ago of an instruction to join in a boycott of Mr Djilas ... "in my view a Communist should be first of all a human being and every political movement which puts aside ethics and morals carries within it the seeds of its own destruction."

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

One final chance for Leyland page 17

Stock markets
FT Ind 420.2 down 1.9
FT Gilts 65.31 down 0.04

Sterling
$2.1990 down 55 pts
Index 69.5 down 0.2

Dollar
Index 85.1 down 0.2

Gold
$469 an ounce down $20

3-month money
Inter-bank 16¾ to 16½
Euro $ 14¾ to 14½

IN BRIEF

ɔlls-Royce thorised borrow up £200m

Government has author- Rolls-Royce to negotiate borrowing of up to £200m. was announced yesterday r Michael Marshall, Par- itary Under-Secretary of for Industry, who said that overnment would ensure ne debts of R-R, including under the loan, would be ı full.

is likely to require ɹ £700m over the next ears to support its devel- it programme, and there pected to be substantial ɔm the Government.

·ign brokers' fear

ɜign exchange brokers ! fears yesterday that new governing the conduct of n exchange dealings, due ne into force on January ıld damage their business. fear that the banks will ɔt to prevent their dealing ly with companies.
Financial Editor, page 17

l falls sharply

d dropped back sharply day, in a reaction to its ıtic rise earlier this week. metal lost $20 an ounce ndon to close at $469

tinghouse settles

ɜtinghouse Electric, the United States power com- has settled in principle anium supply contract dis- with Union Electric, a ·. Under the settlement; nghouse will pay $125m t £57m). The pre-tax pay- will be included as an ɔrdinary item in the fourth ɜr results. The litigation een in progress since 1975.

us policies warning

ɜarning to motorists who ɪt policies from a bogus ınce company calling itself dale Insurance Co has issued by the Department Trade. Purchasers are ·d that the policies are d.

orders for Shorts

Belfast-based aerospace ıny Shorts has sold four 30-seater commuter air- to three airlines in the d States to bring the total and options for the type from 18 airlines. The new ıcts are worth over £5m.

ı bank sues again

k Markazi, the Iranina cen- ank, has gone back to the ·h courts for the return 0m deposited in the Paris h of Citibank, which has frozen as a result of Pre- t Carter's order. The earlier ruled that Bank azi had no right to the : because they had been sited for a fixed period ı ended on December 19.

ɜes chief for bank

Charles Williams, former man of the Price Commis- is to be the managing tor of the Henry Ans- ɜr merchant bank from February. He will also the board of the parent y Ansbacher Holdings.

ll Street moves up

Street advanced 4.43 ts to 843.34 on trading in 40,000 shares. The $ against SDR was 1.31275. The £ 0.596433.

Business Diary, page 17

BP and Shell forced to pay higher oil price as Iranian contracts expire

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The failure of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to agree on a price structure at the Caracas conference has strengthened Iran's hand in negotiations *about to be resumed with Shell* and British Petroleum.

Both companies' contracts with Iran, their major supplier, are due to expire at the end of this month.

Preliminary talks with the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) have already made it clear that Iran wants to squeeze the highest price it can get from the new contracts, which start on January 1, without much regard to repercussions internationally.

BP and Shell, Iran's largest customers for oil, have already had to pay considerably more than the official contract price. *The volume of supplies obtained* by both companies has dwindled to well below the agreed level, which in turn is a fraction of the pre-revolution levels. While British Petroleum's contract for 1979 is for supplies of 385,000 barrels a day, during the last few months it has been receiving only about *360,000* barrels per day.

Shell have had a similar experience. Though its contract supply was for 205,000 barrels a day, it has actually been getting only about 195,000 barrels. This compares with about 500,000 barrels before the revolution.

Iran has now said that it will further *reduce supplies next* year. Industry sources say that the proposal is to cut levels to both companies to about 100,000 barrels a day.

Initial negotiations, which according to some commentators were carried on in an auction room atmosphere, indicated that the new contract price would be considerably higher than existing levels.

It is understood that the NIOC has worked out a formula based partly on the prevailing spot market prices. If this was agreed it would take prices up from the present official price of $28.50 (for light crude) to an average of at least 36 dollars a barrel.

Iran clearly wants to make the maximum short-term gains from rocketing spot market prices obtained for supplies diverted from the United States which have reached $45 dollars a barrel.

One of the major customers is Japan, which has been accused of buying up to 20 million tons of Iranian crude oil at double the long-term contract prices.

Iranian oil normally accounts for about 15 per cent of Western Europe's crude oil imports. The oil market is so finely tuned that any reduction in supplies coupled with increased prices can have a severe impact.

Glut and fall in price forecast by Saudis

From Nicholas Hirst
Caracas, Dec 20

All attempts at compromise *through one of the longest* Opec meetings in recent years have proved unsuccessful. Saudi Arabia was prepared to move the price of its crude up to $26 if the widest spread of price was limited to $29.50 but the north Africans insisted on going to $31.50 if the Saudi's in*creased to $26.*

Iran also was not prepared to be limited to an upper level. With so much dissension between the 13 Opec members, agreement, despite a 15-hour session on Wednesday running late into the night, remained elusive.

Two of the north African producers, Nigeria and Libya, have now announced prices of $30 for 1980. Mr Belkacem Nabi, the Algerian minister, although he had not finally decided on a price, said he did not think it would be more than $30 but it seemed certain it would be at least $29.50.

Once all three north African countries have decided on a price, the British National Oil Corporation is expected to follow suit, making North Sea oil as expensive as the highest official priced crude in the world.

The effect will be to help Britain's balance of payments, as the heavy crude it imports is less expensive than the crude it exports.

In a final communique from the conference Mr Rene Ortiz, the secretary general of Opec, said the countries had been *unable to reach any agreement* on the price recommendations made by the Opec economics commission.

The worry is that this will lead to leapfrogging of prices between Opec members such has occurred in the past three months and drove Saudi Arabia *to raise its price of $18 by 33* per cent.

Uncertainty remains both over prices, therefore, and production levels. Spot markets could remain volatile and highly priced for some time, driving the price of petrol even higher.

Some of the fears over production cuts has been removed, however.

Shaikh Yamani, the Saudi oil *minister, confirmed at a press* conference yesterday that his country would maintain its production at 9.5 million barrels a day for at least the first quarter of next year. This is one million barrels a day higher than Saudi Arabia wishes to produce over the long term.

Shaikh Ali Kahlifa al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti oil minister, traditionally a mediator at Opec meetings between the pricing hawks and the moderates, said that although his country wished to reduce its production below its average 2.5 million barrels a day of the first nine months of 1979, he had never said by how much or when he intended these cuts to be made. The inference was that they would not be used to create an artificial shortage.

Libya, however, still intends to reduce its production of 2.1 million barrels a day, but has not said by how much, and Iran is also intending further cutbacks from its reported production of 3.5 million barrels a day.

But with the import targets adopted a fortnight ago by consuming nations at the International Energy Agency meeting in Paris and a growing world recession, there could be a small glut of oil developing next year. This would force *spot prices down.*

Shaikh Yamani told reporters he had his own assessment of the way in which the oil market would develop. "I think there will be a glut. It is coming. Hopefully there will be no political interruption in any country to stop the flow of oil. If this is the case prices will come down."

He believed there was already a one million barrel surplus of oil supply over consuming country consumption but that it was being taken into stocks in case of a cold winter in January and February.

With a *growing recession in* the United States and the effects of independent oil companies beginning to dump their stocks as oil became more plentiful, spot prices would fall by kkMarch. It should be possible to have "some sort of unification of price among Opec members".

He thought that Germany and Japan had helped bid up the price of oil on the spot market by being repared to pay very high prices for supplies. "If they say look, here is $40 a barrel, you should not exect a producer country to only accept $24.

Mr Ali Akbar Moinfar, the Iranian oil minister, left, in Caracas yesterday with President Luis Merrera Campins of Venezuela.

UK taking most oil revenues in kind

For the foreseeable future Britain is to take most of its royalty from oil production around its shores in kind rather than cash.

The decision to raise the proportion taken in this form was announced by Mr Hamish Gray, Minister of State for Energy, in reply to a Parliamentary question. It has been prompted not by revenue considerations so much as the Government's *wish to have access to energy* and flexibility of control over its disposal at a time of uncertain supplies.

Under the terms of the *Petroleum and Submarine Pipe*lines Act the Government is permitted to take royalty in oil rather than cash up to 12½ per cent of production. It is required to give the licensee six months' notice of its intention.

Yesterday's announcement, covering the second half of 1980 "and succeeding six-month periods", indicates the adoption of a longer-term policy towards royalty collection.

The current half-year is the first during which royalty is being collected in part in oil, and the yield is expected to be less than 2m tonnes. The proportion will increase next year.

The "take" in oil in the second half of next year is now put at about 6m tonnes and that for the whole of the following year at about 13m tonnes. In 1981 royalty oil will be taken from most British oil fields.

Costs incurred by licensees in delivering oil to the state are borne by the Department of Energy.

Sterling outflow cuts money supply growth despite jump in private sector loan demand

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

Growth in the money supply eased back appreciably in the November banking month, largely as a result of a huge private sector move out of sterling after the October abolition of exchange controls.

Although this outflow adds yet another complication in assessing the recent underlying trend in monetary growth, the latest figures, showing a 0.6 per cent rise in sterling M3 in the five weeks to November 21, do at least represent a considerable improvement on the previous month, when sterling M3 rose by 2 per cent.

Even so, the figures cannot be taken as totally reassuring, and the further sharp increase in private sector loan demand *during the month helps to* explain why the Government decided to raise the Bank of England's minimum lending rate to 17 per cent on November 15.

Bank lending to the private sector increased by a further £750m (seasonally adjusted) over the five weeks, and total domestic credit expanded by £1,187m.

Although the rise in MLR and bank base rates came far too late in the month to have much impact on the level of private sector loan demand, the increase did at least come in time to enable the Government to sell substantial quantities of debt to the private sector, thus reducing the expansionary impact of the Government's borrowing requirement on the money supply.

Sales of gilt-edged stocks to the private sector, the bulk of *which took place after the MLR* increase, totalled £957m. Against this, however, private sector holdings of Treasury bills declined, and there was a particularly large fall, of £332m in private sector holdings of Certificates of Tax Deposit as the CTDs were either applied to tax payments or cashed in.

Overall, a central government borrowing requirement of £731m was offset by £455m of debt sales to the private sector. This mean that there was a central government contribution of £276m towards domestic credit expansion, to which must be added £58m for the rest of the public sector.

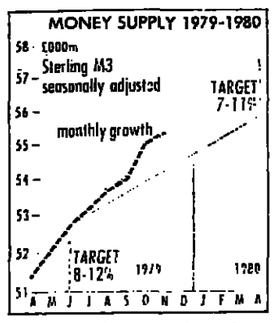
This further large expansion in domestic credit did not flow through fully to sterling M3 as a result of the large private sector move out of sterling. The total external and foreign currency offset was £824m.

Just how United Kingdom residents are going to adjust their behaviour to exchange control freedom over the medium term remains to be seen. In the November banking month, however, there was an estimated £750m increase in United Kingdom residents' foreign currency deposits.

The authorities will be watching the trend in this area particularly closely during the coming months. They will want to learn what determines people's behaviour, get some idea as to how active residents are likely to be in switching in and out of sterling, and try to assess to what extent these foreign currency deposits are lodged with United Kingdom-based banks or bank branches, and to what extent they are held overseas.

Last month's increase in sterling M3 reduces the annual rate of growth since June—the base for the present target period—to just under 13 per cent. There is still some way to go to bring growth back inside the target range of 7—11 per cent, but the Government will be hoping that the November rise in interest rates and *the impending recession* will soon start to reduce the upward pressures on money supply.

The narrow-based measure of money supply, M1, fell by £590m (2.1 per cent) last month, mainly as a result of the movement of short-term institutional money into the gilt-edged market at the end of the period.



Textile industry told it must fight foreign competition itself

By John Huxley

A commitment to continue protecting the textile industry against low-cost imports has been given by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State at the Department of Trade. At the same time he gave a warning that the industry must live with competition.

In a letter to Mr John Lee, Conservative MP for Nelson and Colne, Mr Parkinson says that the European Commission will be pressed to ensure that "effective action" against cheap imports is taken.

However he does not commit the Conservatives to a renegotiation of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) and the *associated package of controls.*

Mr Parkinson says it would be premature to commit himself to a particular set of arrangements which would depend on the "general economic climate and trading conditions" as well as the attitude of Britain's EEC partners and other developed countries.

His statement will not wholly convince employers and unions that the Government is prepared to give the backing they believe is necessary to save the industry.

Already the industry has begun discussions internally and with Community partners over the renegotiation of MFA, which expires at the end of 1981.

The minister says he hopes to "correct the impression there may be that the Government is no longer concerned about the industry's future". Nothing could be further from the truth, he says.

However, the textile industry is given a straightforward warning that there are some things government cannot achieve to help its problems.

"We cannot shut out low-cost imports altogether. Quite apart from our international obligations and the interests of the consumer, we are major exporters to most of our suppliers of low-cost clothing and textiles and it simply would not be in our own interests to impose even more rigid restraints

He argues that apart from the "special case" of imports of American synthetic fibre, *imports from developed countries* cannot be kept out.

"We do not think it unreasonable to expect the industry to be able to compete against imports from these sources—over many of which it enjoys a substantial advantage in terms of labour costs."

Deputy chairman of ICI moves to a new post

By Our Industrial Staff

Sir Raymond Pennock, deputy *chairman of Imperial Chemical* Industries, is to leave the company at the end of March, less than eight weeks before he takes over as president of the Confederation of British Industry.

He is to become executive chairman of BICC, the cables and electrical engineering *group, in succession to Mr C. H.* Broughton Pipkin, who will retire.

Sir Raymond, 59, has been one of three deputy chairmen at ICI since 1975, and was a leading contender for the post of chairman, now occupied by Mr Maurice Hodgson. His replacement as deputy chairman will be Mr Robert Haslam, who became the ICI director resident in the United States last October.

Sir Raymond said yesterday that he had received many offers from other companies since the present chairman was appointed. He felt the time was *now right for a move.*

The normal retirement age at ICI is 62, and Sir Raymond said he felt he had several more years' work to offer. His role as president of the CBI will not be affected.

"To take on two new responsibilities is a bit of a jump I suppose, but I thought that the longer I delayed making a move the less opportunity there would be for a significant executive responsibility", he said.

Sir Raymond Pennock: more than 30 years at ICI.

BICC recognized that a significant part of his time would be devoted to CBI affairs but Sir Raymond expected to make "a fair distribution of time and effort on both fronts". The company's honorary president, Lord McFadzean, is a former president of the FBI, forerunner of the CBI.

Sir Raymond, who earned more than £85,000 a year at ICI, became a non-executive director of BICC earlier this year. Part of the attraction lay in becoming chairman, he said.

Sir Raymond added that he was leaving ICI, where he has worked for more than 30 years, on the best of terms.

Mr Haslam, who joins Mr John Harvey-Jones, 55, and Mr William Duncan, 57, as a deputy chairman, is 56.

Business Diary, page 17

US Treasury chief seeks bridging funds to save Chrysler

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Dec 20

Mr William Miller, the United States Secretary of the Treasury, has promised senators that he will immediately try to secure "bridging finance" from private sources to save Chrysler Corporation from bankruptcy.

Congress and the White House are backing financial aid totalling more than $3,000m *(£1,370m) for Chrysler but it* could be up to two months before the cash starts flowing to America's tenth largest company.

Chrysler meanwhile faces an imminent money shortage and claims it may need as much as $500m (£228m) by mid-January *to survive. Falling sales of new* cars are adding daily to the company's problems.

Now that Congress is certain to support a government loan guarantee programme for the car maker attention has switched to Mr Miller's efforts to raise short-term cash.

Mr Miller assured Senator Robert Byrd, the Senate majority leader, that with Congress backing and help from the administration, the company will obtain the interim financing needed while long-term aid is being arranged.

Senator Donald Riegle, of *Michigan, stated after a talk* with Mr Miller that the treasury chief said he would ensure the necessary steps were taken to obtain interim financing.

According to Senator Joseph Biden, of Delaware, Mr Miller said "he would begin immediately to contact some very *critical parties*" to secure the short-term finance.

Apparently the treasury secretary believes that banks will be prepared to lend to Chrysler because of the assurances that a reasonable rescue bill for the company will reach the statute book.

However, the legislation is complicated, giving rise to the belief that it will take some time for actual cash injections to reach the company and hence the need for interim financial backing.

Under the provisions of legislation being enacted, Chrysler must open negotiations with its bankers to secure up to $1,500m in long-term loans that will not be guaranteed by the government.

The actual amount the bankers need to provide will depend on the cash Chrysler might be able to raise through new equity issues.

These details may take some time and several weeks at least will also be needed for new labour contracts to be concluded. Chrysler employees will be asked to postpone wage rises amounting to several hundred million dollars.

The government loan guarantees for roughly $1,500m are contingent upon the new labour contract and Chrysler's ability to raise cash from the banks.

The next couple of weeks are bound to be tense but for the first time in many months Chrysler's managers have reason to be hopeful.

Congress has accepted the appeal for aid and the head of the United States Treasury is using all his influence to raise *the short-term assistance needed* for Chrysler to survive.

PRICE CHANGES

ɜes

ım Trdng 'B'	10p to 460p	Mount Lyell	4p to 62p
·ellia Inv	8p to 373p	Redman Heenan	4p to 55p
y Mail Tst	8p to 435p	Ruberoid	3p to 49p
	5p to 97p	Tanks	8p to 234p
·anh	8p to 407p	Triplex	4p to 61p

lls

ıurg Gold	73c to 555c	Record Ridgway	2p to 27p
ɔtvlei	45c to 610c	Venterspost	55c to 845c
·kins & T'son	8p to 24p	Vlakfontein	20c to 190c
·oss	55c to 905c	Welkom	68c to 895c
ınon	52 to 514	Western Areas	70c to 553c

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
ıralia $	2.05	1.97	Norway Kr	11.40	10.90
·tria Sch	29.00	27.00	Portugal Esc	112.50	107.50
ɔium Fr	66.25	62.75	South Africa Rd	1.75	1.62
ada $	2.64	2.57	Spain Pta	151.50	144.50
mark Kr	12.28	11.73	Sweden Kr	9.53	9.13
and Mkk	8.52	8.12	Switzerland Fr	3.73	3.51
nce Fr	9.22	8.83	USA $	2.25	2.19
many Dm	4.00	3.78	Yugoslavia Dnr	48.50	45.50
ece Dr	97.50	92.50			
ıgkong $	11.20	10.60			
y Lir	1840.00	1755.00			
an Yn	551.00	526.00			
herlands Gld	4.41	4.18			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Dunbee-Combex-Marx take first step back from brink

No fun for toymakers playing survival game

Playing for high stakes in the United States toy market has not proved much fun for Dunbee-Combex-Marx, makers of Cindy doll and Scalextric.

In the four years since the group bought its Louis Marx subsidiary, the shares have fallen from a price then of 197p to a low of 30p in the current year as the losses built up and the group's ambitions foundered.

However, yesterday's news *that Dunbee has taken its first* tentative step back from the brink, will provide some cheer for shareholders.

Talks are now in progress to sell part of the Marx product lines and assets to American toy company, Empire of Carolina, Inc.

Although no figure has been put on the business, Dunbee will take a quarter stake in *Empire—valued at round $3.6m* —as part of the consideration.

Last year Empire made a pre-tax profit of $4m on turnover of $47m. The Securities and Exchange Commission yesterday gave the merger the go-ahead and full details should be agreed by the end of January.

Losses in America sucked *£4.25m from Dunbee's profit* and loss account last year and in the six months to June 30, 1979 the group had slipped some £5m into the red.

With year end borrowings amounting to £30m, and thought to be peaking mid-year at the £50m level, liquidity problems at Dunbee on the back of a 17 per cent MLR are turning the recovery programme into a battle for survival.

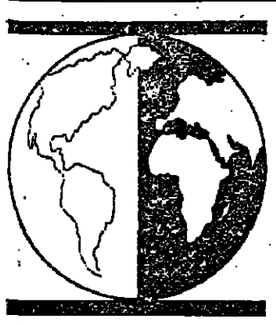
Mr Mason Benson, president of Empire, sees the turnround of the loss-making Marx as child's play. The pinball machines, bowling games and plastic tricycles will fit well into Empire's business and the savings on marketing and merchandising ought to vastly improve margins.

Many see the link-up with Empire as the first step in a complete withdrawal from the American market. Although the sale of Aurora, the more recent Dunbee acquisition in the United States, has not been discussed with Empire, Mr Benson did not rule out a future deal.

However, Dunbee's United Kingdom and European operations are holding their own and a reduced exposure in the United States could be enough to start a recovery.

Toy groups have generally been having a gloomy year with the television blackout depriving them of the important pre-Christmas advertising exposure. Airfix has already announced the closure of the Meccano subsidiary and many of the other groups, including Lesney Products, are having to pull out all the stops to remain in profit.

Alison Mitchell



Washington decides on oil tax of $228,000m

Leaders of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives have agreed on legislation that could add £228,000m (about £104.110m) to oil company tax bills in the decades ahead.

The politicians also agreed, however, to postpone final action on the legislation until early next year. Last April President Carter called for legislation to tax the profits, the so-called "windfall profits", that would accrue to domestic oil companies as United States price controls on oil were lifted to enable domestic prices to *reach the world market level.*

The Senate completed work on one complicated Bill that would have generated estimated tax revenues of $178,000m between 1980 and 1990, while the House agreed on a Bill likely to produce a tax total of $277,000m.

£394m BP scheme

BP Petroleum Development of Norway says it has asked the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy for permission to develop Block 7/12 in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, north-west of the Ekofisk field. The *total development cost is estimated* at 4,300m crowns (about £394.5m).

$145,000m coal-oil plan

Japan will participate in a $145,000m (about £66,210m) coal liquification project to start next year with Gulf Corporation, of the United States and Ruhrkohle AG of West Germany, it was announced in Tokyo. The project is designed to build a plant in West Virginia to produce 20,000 barrels of synthetic oil a day by 1985.

US money supply up

The United States Federal Reserve Board has announced that the money supply rose by $900m (about £411m) in the last statement week on a narrowly defined M1 basis, and that it rose by $1,300m on the broader M2 basis. Business loans at large New York banks rose by $1,100m.

Trade between September and November averaged £25m a month

British companies still in business in Iran

Speculation that the United States may impose a blockade in an attempt to break the deadlock over the Tehran hostages has added to the uncertainty facing British companies continuing to do business in and with Iran.

Fear of non-payment and civil unrest since the revolution have scared some away from a traditionally lucrative Middle East market. Others—primarily engaged on huge military contracts—learned long ago that their services would not be required.

Nevertheless, trade continued and between September and November averaged £25m a month. And, although many companies are sufficiently cautious to provide against possible losses, most report that payments are coming through and that conditions within Iran are less chaotic than they appear in television reports.

Mr Ian Davis, a director of Thomas Robinson and Son of Rochdale, engineers and machine makers, recently returned from Tehran where he found "commercial life was going on fairly normally". He said: "We were made welcome by government officials, and, although the atmosphere in the streets was potentially scary, there was no hostility".

Robinson has received more than £1m in payments for flour milling machinery dispatched over the past few months. The last consignment was shipped to the Turkish port of Trabzon, for road transportation across Iran to Tabriz.

The company is one of three working at Tabriz and four other sites where grain silos are being built. The others are Norwest Holst, which has been doing piling work, and Redler Conveyors of Stroud, which is doing the mechanical and electrical engineering.

Altogether the four and a half year contract for the silos and flour mill is worth more than £70m.

Redler has had men supervising work on site at Arak and Qom. A senior executive said yesterday that, if anything, work was progressing more smoothly than before the overthrow of the Shah. Several hundred Iranian nationals are employed on the sites.

Another company which has retained a workforce in Iran is Marples Ridgway, the civil engineering subsidiary of Bath and Portland. The company is engaged in talks with the Iranian authorities on ways of accelerating progress on its £105m Shurgaz-Zahedan-Mirjaweh road contract.

Meanwhile, work is going ahead, and the company has about 50 British engineers, five of their wives and seven children in Iran, living in the Baluchistan region.

Sir Kenneth Selby, chairman of Bath and Portland, is optimistic that the road will be completed. The present workforce is about 400, but Sir Kenneth explained that if the backlog of payments can be cleared the pace of work could be increased. This would mean taking on some 1,600 more workers.

The company has assets of about £38m tied up in Iran (including about £14m of plant and equipment) and has made a provision of £3.5m against possible losses

So far deficits have been covered by insurers, but Sir Kenneth accepts that non-payment cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely.

Other contractors have abandoned work in Iran. Laing, Wimpey and Costain were each working under contract to International Military Services (formerly Millbank Technical Services) on military contracts at Isfahan and Darud before the revolution.

Each company has withdrawn its expatriate workforce, although it is understood that plant worth several million pounds has not been recovered.

Cementation International, part of the Trafalgar House group, had its management contract for the Farazhad scheme terminated, but is understood to be considering an invitation from the new regime to new talks.

International Military Services had all of its Iranian contracts terminated. *Britain won military orders worth about* £2,500m between 1972 and 1978.

Companies offering goods for cash have been best placed to withstand the turmoil of the last 12 months. Companies relying on progress payments are vulnerable, especially since the Export Credits Guarantee Department stopped taking new business for Iran last February.

Up to last month the ECGD had paid out £30m in claims arising from Iranian defaults, and there have been suggestions that the total may reach £120m.

John Huxley

Export hope for joint uranium technology

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

Anglo-Dutch-German centrifuge technology for the enrichment of uranium may be adopted by the Australian Government, which is studying the feasibility of installing an enrichment plant in Australia in order to increase the value of uranium exports.

Urenco and Centec, the two tripartite companies set up to develop and exploit the European centrifuge process, were invited to Australia earlier this month to discuss possible co-operation.

Such a technology transfer would need agreement between the four governments on security. Meanwhile, discussions are to continue in preparation for a decision by Australia during 1981.

The main competitor to the European gas-centrifuge enrichment process is the diffusion process used in the United States.

The United Kingdom partner in the tripartite project is British Nuclear Fuels. The company has a one-third shareholding in Centec, which designs and makes the centrifuge plants, and in Urenco, which operates the plants and markets the enriched uranium.

German bank chief's prescription for growth

From Peter Norman
Frankfurt, Dec 20

Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl, the incoming president of the West German Federal Bank, gave warning yesterday that West Germany will maintain its tight money policy in the face of growing inflationary pressures.

Speaking at the formal ceremony to mark his taking over of the presidency of the German central bank from Dr Otmar Emminger, Herr Pöhl went out of his way to dispel any impression that he will be less forceful than his predecessor in the fight against inflation.

He told his audience that there was no contradiction between tight money and economic growth. Instead, the two were more like twins, and the lessons of the past few years had shown that a policy of stability was the best prescription for economic growth.

He stressed that the bank would maintain its proven policies and that money must remain tight if it were to maintain its value.

The bank, he said, would determine its monetary policy on the basis of the real growth possibilities of the German economy but he said that these had been reduced by the rise in oil prices.

We know that higher oil prices cannot be spirited away through a restrictive and monetary policy, Herr Pöhl said, adding that every mark that is paid out for oil or other raw materials, development aid or protection of the environment cannot be spent again on wages, profits or additional public expenditure.

Apart from inflation, another problem has been the growing reserve role of the Deutsche mark.

Herr Pöhl conceded that Germany will probably have to live with this role whether it likes it or not. On the other hand he rejected any restriction of free movements of capital as an answer to the problem.

Dr Emminger, the out-going president, underlined that West Germany was entering a decade of great economic uncertainty in a relatively strong position.

The Federal Bank's huge reserves meant that the current account deficits arising this year and next will present no immediate problems.

The *domestic economy* was still performing well, thanks largely to a boom in investments, while the bank had domestic money supply under control and was therefore able to curb that part of inflation that did not arise from oil price rise increases.

Business Diary, page 17

Investigating need for small workshops

The Government has commissioned an investigation by a firm of accountants into the need for workshop space for small businesses.

Mr David Mitchell, Under-Secretary at the Department of Industry, said yesterday during the committee stage of the Industry Bill: "We have commissioned Coopers and Lybrand to look into the need for small workshop units. They are due to report in February.

"We expect there to be a very substantial demand, which we will encourage the private sector to fill"

Mr Mitchell added: "There should be opportunities for private businesses to build factories and local authorities to take head leases".

A pilot scheme of 60 small workshops was being set up by the Government in three areas, including Jarrow on Tyneside. "In very difficult areas, public *money may have to be involved*," said Mr Mitchell.

If the scheme worked in the difficult areas, private businesses would be encouraged to start up in areas where they had previously been reluctant. The committee stage was adjourned for the Christmas recess with six clauses of the Bill remaining.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

House insurance

From the Secretary-General of the British Insurance Association.

Sir, Mr C. W. Humphreys says, correctly (December 17), that the BIA leaflet "A Guide to Buildings Insurance for the Home Owner" recommends that sums insured be based on the full cost of rebuilding.

However, he omits to mention that the guidance given refers largely to twentieth-century properties, built mainly of brick. The leaflet says "older houses which are required to be reinstated in exactly their original style need a professional valuation".

Mr Humphreys applies the decision in Leppard v Excess incorrectly. In that case, in the terms of the particular policy wording used, the market value of the house was an appropriate measure of the owner's loss in circumstances where he had never lived in the cottage and did not intend to; it had been for sale for three years before being destroyed. The case did not lay down general guidelines for householders or insurers.

Most payments by insurers are based on the cost of repairing or rebuilding the damaged house, because that is what owners generally require—and it is fair that they should get it.

Yours faithfully,
R. BARDELL,
Secretary General,
British Insurance Association,
Aldermary House,
Queen Street,
London EC4N 1TU.

From Mr G. J. Goodhardt

Sir, When I insure the contents of my house I am given a choice. I can either pay a premium related to the replacement cost of my belongings and in the event of a claim I receive the full cost of replacing lost articles. Or I can pay a lesser premium related to the realizable value of my belongings, in which case any claim will be subject to a deduction for "wear and tear". This seems to me a fair system, except that I have never quite understood why the premium rate per pound insured should be higher in the first instance than in the second.

But when I insure my house, I am told that I must insure for the full cost of rebuilding in the event of a total loss, and that if I do not then any claim for a partial loss will be scaled down in proportion. However, if I make a claim for a partial loss (for example for redecorating a room damaged by overflowing water) I find my claim is still reduced for "wear and tear", under the name of "betterment". Can anyone explain this seeming anomaly to me?

Yours faithfully,
GERALD GOODHARDT,
15 Hillcroft Crescent,
Wembley,
Middlesex, HA9 8EE.

From Mr P. B. Matthews

Sir, With reference to Mr C. W. Humphreys' letter (December 17) on house insurance cover, it might not be inappositie to point out that in Leppard v Excess Insurance [1979] 2 All ER 668, to which he refers, the plaintiff's house destroyed by fire was on the market at £4,500, although reinstatement would have cost £8,694.

Since the plaintiff was trying to sell at £4,500, his loss was not the loss of a home but the loss of a bargain. Accordingly he recovered the market value less the value of the site (which he still had, of course), a total of £3,000. Megaw LJ made it clear that the value of the loss "is a question of fact, and . . . one must look at all the relevant facts of the particular case, to ascertain the actual value of the loss at the relevant date".

This case is therefore not authoritative on the question of the value of the loss of a home used as such and not up for sale at a price lower than the cost of reinstatement. If such a home be lost through an insured peril, the plaintiff has lost his home, not his bargain, and is entitled to be put back in the position he occupied before the loss took place.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL MATTHEWS,
Faculty of Laws,
University College London,
4-8 Endsleigh Gardens,
London WC1H 0EG.

Saving Meccano for the children

From Mrs A. Avery

Sir, While agreeing with the sentiments expressed, I object *to the sexist tone of Dr* Stephen Ware's letter (December 14).

Surely I was not the only girl to be educated and entertained by the Meccano model engineering system? Over 30 years ago, I was not allowed a set because I was a girl, so I played frequently with that of a young friend, while he enjoyed my doll's house. I wonder if he is now a home-minding husband? I later went on to get a science degree, and became a mathematics teacher.

Please will someone save Meccano for my future grandsons—and granddaughters?

A. AVERY,
19, Abbey Road,
Bristol, BS9 3QN.

Marketing opportunities for steel

From Mr W. Cookson

Sir, P. W. Smith is right to say (Business News, December 11) that the British Steel Corporation cannot hope to keep ahead in the big league of world steel production and should introduce new products based on existing technology available in this country to meet recognisable market needs.

As a customer of the British steel industry for about forty years, I have seen tremendous technical innovations in the quality of the sheet materials but it has invariably been left to the customer to develop new designs and products to take the fullest advantage of the new opportunities for increased sales, which these materials provide. In particular, the building industry has only benefited to a limited extent. It is a sobering thought that galvanised corrugated sheets invented in this country in the last century, are still being produced, although in slightly different forms and a variety of colours, flooding an over-saturated market here and abroad.

New designs of building products have met with gratifying success in this country and abroad, but what has been, and still is, required is a basic change of policy by the BSC to support such profitable innovations on a large scale, particularly for overseas promotional activities.

Additionally, there is an enormous potential for the use by small manufacturers of new and inexpensive production machines to supply variations of the new products, which will allow the market a choice of buying these instead of the mass produced outputs tied to gargantuan mill based machines.

The BSC has failed to change its marketing concepts appreciably, while small-scale introduction of new products using their materials has struggled to survive. Other countries are already using the new technologies and, indeed, for some time now, one of my earliest inventions, manufactured on the Continent after the patent period had expired, is making increasing inroads into this country.

The present time is surely ripe for change in the development and market philosophy of the BSC, otherwise there is no real hope for the industry in the rapidly intensifying competition from other countries.

Sincerely,
W. COOKSON,
132 Portchester Road,
Fareham,
Hampshire.
December 12.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Factors influencing money supply

ilt market barely stirred yesterday; se of 0.6 per cent in sterling M3 in nking month to mid-November being n line with expectations. But beneath ld fact of a relatively modest rise in oad based monetary measure, there fact a number of more interesting s, not least further substantial domesdit expansion (£1,187m) and a signifiicrease in United Kingdom residents' n currency deposits (£750m) in the of the October abolition of exchange ls.

resting though individual monetary may be, however, they may not be larly useful indicators at this stage. tic monetary flows have been badly over the past few months as a result s year's tax changes; and it is still days to start drawing conclusions on edium-term implications of exchange l abolition.

hort, prediction of monetary trends e remainder of the financial year are sy. What we do know is that the l government borrowing requirement least post the December banking —should be very much lower in the quarter of the year. What is far less is just how quickly the midber rise in interest rates will start k on private sector loan demand.

Christmas shopping apparently place late this year and an increasing r of shoppers probably holding back post-Christmas sales, it may be that al sector loan demand will remain rough the January banking month.

key issue, however, concerns the our of the corporate sector.

Bank of England's latest quarterly n took the view that it was reason- expect the corporate sector to start king and cutting back on activity too long—it noted the slowdown in sset investment that already appeared started.

may, as much as anything else, have way of preparing the market for the lity of a higher PSBR next year. urgently, however, the authorities be hoping that private sector loan d will start to fall away before any lownward movement in international ias the opportunity to start affecting g and sterling interest rates.

gn exchange

ıd of ıpetition

ules for the conduct of foreign ex- business, which come into effect at ginning of January, seem likely to life for the foreign exchange brokers ough indeed. Effectively they throw rket in foreign exchange—potentially zy area since the removal of governontrols in October—wide open to the of competition.

only can bank dealers directly wish n foreign exchange, but company can ith company; and neither is obliged rmerly) to have recourse, nominal or ise, to the members of the Foreign nge and Currency Deposit Brokers' ation.

foreign exchange brokers make a out of necessity with their claim that ustomers cannot match their services ll no longer be able to squeeze down age if their alternative is to do it elves.

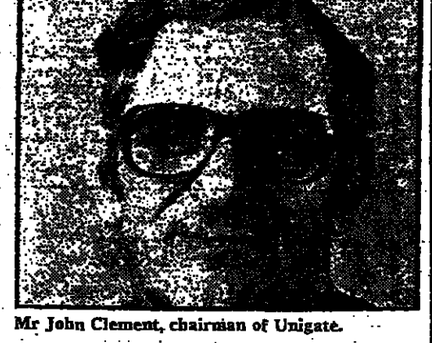
are, however, apprehensive that to commercial names may prove to arce, if the banks, as threatened by airman of the BBA foreign exchange ttee, decline to take business from s dealing with commercial names. e foundations for their hopes of supom corporate treasurers seem, to put lly, shaky. It rather looks as though going to be a case where God, or at ate the Old Lady of Threadneedle is on the side of the big battalions.

ate

radualist roach

e is reaching an uncomfortable ads. It is nearing the phase where nization and rationalization, which en the main drive behind the strong growth in the past two years and the shares show such strong relative th for most of this year, is coming end. The problem now is whether it can put to good use the large cash flow from its milk businesses by acquiring other interests with the right growth potential.

While Northern Foods has an enviable track record in doing just that, Unigate appears to be more timid in its acquisition strategy. So despite the recent sale of its creameries to the Milk Marketing Board



Mr John Clement, chairman of Unigate.

which released £87m for alternative investment, there seems little stomach to take on something big, preferring the gradualist approach it has been taking recently through the purchase of the likes of Telfers and Porkshire.

First-half pre-tax profits growth of just over a fifth to £18.3m is only just over half the growth rate last year and with the loss of the creameries, which admittedly probably only brought in just over £8m in a full year, full year growth looks as though it will be not much more than a seventh to £50 to £52m where a prospective p/e ratio of around nine at 111p looks about right.

For the second half, last night's milk price rise has not come a moment too soon but other than that the group is not anticipating any fireworks. Meanwhile there has been an underlying rise in stocks while the £65m obtained as a first payment from the MMB will be more effectively felt on the balance sheet by the year end than appears to be the case at the half-way stage. The one third dividend increase to 2.86p a share gross, if followed at the full year, still only gives a modest yield of 7 per cent.

Scottish & Newcastle

Pressures on free trade

Recovery hopes for Scottish & Newcastle have been nipped in the bud by news that *interim profits are up less than 5 per cent* at £22.6m. That is well short of outside estimates.

In volume terms, beer sales were up during the period but it seems clear that recovery in market share seen in the previous half has not been maintained at the same pace. Meanwhile, the costs of improving distribution and promotion are still running heavily on margins.

Comparisons with Whitbread illustrate how severely S&N has suffered from trading troubles partly as a result of its high exposure to the competitive free trade market. In 1976 S&N's profits of over £30m were similar to those of Whitbread. This year S&N seems to be heading for around £37m—reflecting an increase of less than 4 per cent—a figure which would be only a shade above Whitbread's interim total.

Outside free trade, S&N's managed houses have done relatively well but the hotels division has been hard-hit by reconstructions and a fall off in tourist trade.

The shares down 3p to 62½p yesterday still have income attractions on a 9.1 per cent yield assuming a maintained payment—though the interim gross payment is fractionally down—while recovery and even remote bid hopes have not completely dissolved.

But for the time being S&N will have a fight on its hands to consolidate existing *business in the face of a powerful attack on* free trade by Bass and Whitbread. Also, after the break-up of the original Harp consortium the group could be running towards huge over-capacity problems unless it can build up new brands.

Meanwhile, costs of the development programme are taking their toll on profits with interest charges (up 64 per cent to £4.1m despite some rolling over of medium-term debt) still heading for between £9m and £10m for the current year. Gearing still remains comparatively low but S&N's high spending could be painful in the short-term as pressures on consumer spending increase.

One last chance for Leyland

Yesterday the Government committed £300m to BL. Will the money put the company on the road to recovery? Peter Hill reports

To judge from his parliamentary statement yesterday Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, does not appear to be totally convinced that BL has a secure future. But in line with his own philosophy he has neatly dropped the ball back in the company's lap. It *is up to them.*

BL and its workers are being given a chance with the latest tranche of over £300m of taxpayers' money. Whether that will be sufficient to push the ailing British motor manufacturer along the road to recovery depends on how successfully the company carries through its radical proposals.

The Government's decision to plump in more money wil cause some fulmination among the Tory backbenchers who believe that the company should be raising all of its cash from disposals.

But the conditions attached by Sir Michael Edwardes and his team to the cash injection are tough. Any cash shortages stemming from disruption, dislocation or delay in pushing through the plan in all its aspects will lead to its abandonment.

The Leyland management team has sought to deliver its part of the bargain. The Edwardes plan, for the streamlining of the company's operations involving the closure or partial closure of 13 plants and the disappearance of 25,000 jobs, is both the most recent and most radical of the many schemes which have emerged over the years.

Sir Michael pulled off a coup when he went over the heads of the shop stewards to get endorsement of the plan from the shop-floor. The no-nonsense treatment of Mr Derek Robinson, the Longbridge convenor, struck a chord in boardrooms up and down the country.

Sir Michael can point to those achievements with some pride but, important though they are, much more fundamental changes still have to be secured. The progress made on the industrial relations front could still be arrested unless the company can reach agreement with the trade unions on its 5 per cent pay offer and a package of demands for changes in working practices and greater flexibility between trades.

Those changes are crucial to the second element determining BL's survival: the introduction of a new model programme. That programme is ambitious by any standards and no one should be in any doubt of the necessity for the company to deliver the goods. This Government will not be willing to pump in further cash.

BL has made progress in improving the overall industrial relations climate, it has a detailed strategy for the model programme and now it has the cash. But it has to achieve the best possible balance of all three in the shortest possible time if the Government, the taxpayer an dthe employees are to be convinced that BL is capable of recovery.

The company must first claw back its share of the domestic car market. This has fallen from nearly 31 per cent in 1975 to 23.48 per cent last year and an estimated 20 per cent this year. Importers have lifted their share to 60 per cent. A similar pattern has developed in the commercial vehicle sector.

Mr Ray Horrocks, managing director of Leyland Cars is aiming for a 23 per cent share of the United Kingdom market next year implying Leyland sales of no more than 339,250. The overall market is expected to be relatively stagnant and the competition from Ford, the Japanese and the European car manufacturers is likely to intensify still further.

The company is planning a substantial buy British promotional campaign in the early part of the new year. This is designed to lift sales of BL models over the first six months when the Marina is due to appear with a new face. In the autumn the much vaunted Mini-Metro is due to be launched at the Motor Show.

The Metro is BL's big hope for Longbridge. It is the company's single most important project with initial production, from lines which will incorporate welding robots, likely to be 4,500 units a week rising to 6,500. The successful conclusion of the manning and flexibility arrangements will be crucial to the success of the project.

A further model is due early in 1981 and in the summer of that year the controversial BL-Honda car for the middle range will come on stream at Cowley. Production of between 70,000 to 80,000 units a year is planned.

Yesterday's government announcement effectively gives BL the go ahead to sign up formally with Honda and that project will swallow up around £100m of the new funds. Within weeks of the BL-Honda car (the Bounty) coming on to the market, BL plans to introduce a revamped Princess. The highly successful Land-Rover and Range Rover lines at that time should be building up to capacity.

Beyond that, BL is planning its model strategy around the LC 10 five-door hatchback which will replace the Maxi and Allegro in the middle of 1982. There will be further refinement of the LC 10 to replace the Marina, due to be launched a year later.

Boosting productivity—as Sir Keith Joseph never ceases to emphasize—is vital to the whole of British industry and to BL in particular. The 25,000 jobs which are due to be shed under the Edwardes' plan are a start and in the present round of wage negotiations a further 5,000 could go.

European motor industry leaders believe that BL will be only half-way towards the right manning levels under the proposals already announced. Success has always been around the corner. Leyland has a chance to show the Government and the taxpayer that it is in sight.

How much money is escaping abroad?

Margaret Stone

Two weeks ago the senior partner of a big City firm of solicitors took a short stroll to the offices of a City firm of specialist tax consultants. The object was to discuss the wholesale expatriation of all the discretionary trusts looked after by the law firm. The money involved was more than £100m.

Other responsible advisers and trustees who take their fiduciary duties towards their clients seriously must be contemplating similar action. The mass transfer of assets which could result within the next year or two is the direct outcome of the Government's decision on October 23 to abolish exchange controls.

The increased work-load that the new world-wide opportunities present has been welcomed by the tax fraternity quite as much as it has by bankers, institutional investors and fund managers. The scope for tax avoidance — not to mention evasion—has been substantially improved. International "moonlighting" on a much wider scale can be expected.

The Inland Revenue does not share the widespread enthusiasm for the abolition of exchange control regulations. The decision caught it on the hop and its officers are still speechless — with good reason. The Government's action has undermined much of the Revenue's work in checking tax evasion. Tax dodging is increasing and the Revenue has been fighting back in recent years with more people, more technical experience and more powers. Its activities may not have improved its image, but they were beginning to bite.

Having made the front of the house more secure, the Revenue is angry that the Government has by dropping exchange control regulations opened the back door for both tax avoiders and tax evaders of substance. The people who are going to use the overseas deposit route illegally are not in the same class as the plumber who demands cash for mending a burst pipe.

The Inland Revenue is therefore refusing to discuss the implications of exchange control relaxations on its activities. Nor will it pinpoint the areas of greatest concern. At present this must be non-disclosure of *interest. Banks operating in this* country are obliged to give to their own tax inspector details of all interest of more than £15 paid on bank deposits. The information filters across to the individual tax inspectors of the bank's clients.

The process may be long drawn out, but even if it takes two years to complete, sooner or later the correct amount of tax will be levied on the interest.

The Revenue uses the information from the banks as an important source of information about the individual's capital. It is a vital source in determining back duties and how far taxpayers are straying from the fold. The Revenue is now in danger of losing it.

Anyone exporting capital overseas—a simple overnight transfer since October 23—and depositing it with a foreign bank immediately escapes the surveillance of the Inland Revenue. Neither Credit Suisse, Credit Agricole, Commerz Bank nor any other foreign bank cares a fig about the British tax services. No foreign bank outside this country has either a legal or moral obligation to act as informer for the Inland Revenue.

The taxpayer's moral obligation to declare everything remains, of course. And certainly the taxpayer who sent his funds overseas and then pretended he had no income to declare would be living dangerously. Without a change of domicile—the ultimate method of avoiding British taxes—a United Kingdom resident is taxable on his worldwide income and is legally obliged to declare it.

While interest rates in this country remain high and relatively low elsewhere, the Revenue can relax a little. It has worries elsewhere to occupy it at present.

A month ago the Inland Revenue Commissioners suffered a defeat in the Appeal Court which has even greater significance now that exchange controls have been abolished. In the Vestey case, concerning two discretionary trusts established overseas in 1942, the Revenue had been claiming the right to tax the benefits to United Kingdom residents which were paid at the discretion of foreign trustees from overseas assets.

The case was dismissed on the grounds that discretionary beneficiaries could not be held to be involved with the original transfer of the assets, and the results of the Revenue's application of section 412 of the Income Tax Act 1952 were described as "arbitrary, unjust and fundamentally unconstitutional." Provided the beneficiaries are not involved in the transfer, the door has been opened for all discretionary trusts (introduced before the advent of capital transfer tax in 1975) to operate from an overseas base with great freedom as regards income tax.

It is true that capital transfer tax legislation will affect foreign trusts more than United Kingdom ones. The periodic charge (which was postponed for a couple of years in the Budget) on United Kingdom *trusts is replaced by an annual* charge of 3 per cent on foreign trusts.

However, the big exodus of discretionary trusts which is now being contemplated hangs on two factors. There are hopes, on the one hand, that the Government, which is known to be softening its attitudes towards capital taxes, may dispose of these periodic and annual charges. On the other, is a nagging fear that the Government may eventually be forced into reintroducing exchange control regulations, which makes a strong case for getting out while the going is good.

And where are they all going to? The search for politically sound, English-speaking (for preference) tax havens with good communications and plenty of sunshine grows more difficult year by year. Tax planners, I am told, are now running their slide rule over the British Virgin Islands.

Technology

Mrs Murphy's Corollary

The world of technology is the world of Murphy's Law—the law that says in essence that if things can go wrong, they will. If you drop a piece of buttered toast, in the well-known example, it will invariably land butter-side down. Now a whole new range of Murphy-inspired legislation has emerged.

Many of the new laws have been framed in the computer industry, where hordes of so-called "bugs" in computer programs have succeeded the gremlins of an earlier age. But many of the laws will ring true everywhere.

For those who accept the basic Murphy, and most of us do because bitter experience has taught us that life really is like that, the logic of what is known as Mrs Murphy's Corollary follows directly. This says that you cannot successfully determine beforehand which side of the bread to butter.

By extension we come to the more general Law of Selective Gravity, which says that any object will fall so as to do the most damage. And the Multiple Murphy, known also as Murphy's Fourth Law: if there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that does go wrong will be the one that will cause the most damage.

In a computer system the software or programs that make it work are held in the computer's memory, which is of a fixed capacity. Hence the computer world equivalent of Parkinson's Law: any given program will expand to fill all available memory.

Another one for the technical: Murphy's Law of Thermodynamics states that things get worse under pressure.

Some of the new post-Murphy legislation goes even wider, attempting to establish general rules by which we can understand the rogue behaviour of things when faced by people. Dealing, in other words, with what in the jargon is known as the "man-machine interface."

I am indebted to research by Mr John Peers of the Logical Machine Corporation of Sunnyvale, California, for the following attributions. The originators may not be well-known; their laws will live forever, wherever men and women approach machines in attempts to make them perform their allotted functions.

Take note, then, of Sattinger, Lowery, Anthony and Cann. Sattinger's Law: it works better if you plug it in. Lowerys Law: if it jams, force it. If it breaks, it needed replacing anyway. Anthony's Law of Force: don't force it, get a large hammer.

And the immortal Cann's Axiom: when all else fails, read the instructions.

Returning from generalities to the peculiar case of the computer industry, we find a legal obsession with the strange rituals of programming. One law of programming says that if a program is up and running it is obsolete; another points out that if a program is useful it will have to be changed.

Program complexity grows until it exceeds the ability of the programmer who must maintain it. Make it possible for programmers to write programs in English and you will find that programmers cannot write English.

Gilb's First Law of Unreliability says that computers are unreliable, but people are even more unreliable. Hence the corollary that, at the source of every error which is blamed on the computer, you will find at least two human errors, including the error of blaming it on the computer.

Gilb's Ninth Law states that the investment in reliability will increase until it exceeds the probable cost of errors, or until someone insists on getting some useful work done.

In scientific research, Finagle's Rules advise as follows. Rule one, to study a subject best, understand it thoroughly before you start. Rule five, experiments should be reproducible, that is, they should all fail in the same way. Rule six, do not believe in miracles—rely on them.

Here I am tempted to interject a saying by a distinguished former colleague which I shall dub Jay's Dictum. Originally applied (some years ago) to Britain's economic prospects, it bears the hallmark of a genuine all-purpose Murphy. Things will get worse, he said, before they get really bad.

Ginsberg and Franklin provide two items which seem to sum up the broad philosophy of life according to the disciples of Murphy. First, Ginsberg's Theorem: one you can't win; two you can't break even; three you can't even quit the game.

Even more succinct is Franklin's Rule—blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall not be disappointed.

Finally, let us turn from all this cynicism and pessimism to recall a beautiful testimony. "I was in the depths of despair", the man said, "when I heard a voice say 'Cheer up, things could be much worse'. So I cheered up. And, sure enough, things got much worse".

Kenneth Owen

Business Diary: Who's who at ICI • OHMS for beginners

ppointment of Bob (below) as a deputy an of ICI on the retire- Sir Ray Pennock is in- g because it is the first he chemicals group has noured a non-resident r. But yesterday's an- ement must also fuel ation about the successor present chairman, Sir e Hodgson.

am is to continue as resident in the United and at 56 is younger, by only a few months, his fellow deputy chair- Bill Duncan, and older months than the other John Harvey-Jones.

new boy's age thus puts n the running for the nanship, likely to fall two years from now. laurice is now 60 and, I would not mind going at ual ICI retirement age of though he could stay on he was 65 if all three ies were to fall under a

● There is no doubting the ability of Eugen Loderer, the head of Germany's powerful IG Metall trade union; or of Karl Hauenschild, his counterpart at the chemical workers' union IG Chemie. But their excursion into politics through direct election to the European Parliament is ending ingloriously after less than six months.

Both men are to resign as Social Democrat members of the European Parliament at the end of the year. The reason?—Pressure of other work. Neither Loderer nor Hauenschild grasped that being a Euro-MP is now a full-time job. Both have been criticized privately for missing the debate that threw out the 1980 EEC budget.

Their departure is a setback for hopes that trade unions could use the parliament as a forum in which to press their ideas on economic policy and combating unemployment. This idea was fostered in the West German elections to the parliament when the unions, led by Heinz Oskar Vetter, chairman of the German trade union federation, threw themselves into the Social Democrat campaign.

Although Vetter will stay on in the European Parliament, it may be that the only thing the history books will now say about trade union intervention is that it helped to bring two thirds of the German electorate to the polls last June compared with a mere one third in Britain.

● *Charles Williams, erstwhile chairman of the now dying Price Commission, is to run the Henry Ansbucher merchant bank from the beginning of February, replacing Robin Baillieu, who is retiring.*

Baillieu, who has occupied the managing director's chair for nearly two years, has helped see through the reorganization and capital reconstruction at what was Fraser Ansbucher. The once-troubled bank is now heading for growth again.

Williams, who is CP, *is next month taking Baillieu's seat on the board of Henry Ansbucher Holdings, the company of which the merchant bank is part. Lissaeur Group, the privately owned New York-based trading company, now has a* CP *per cent stake in the holding company and Maxwell Joseph and his Grand Metropolitan interests a reduced stake of around 20 per cent.*

Charles Williams

Williams, who has been travelling abroad a lot since his contract as Price Commission chairman ran out at the beginning of August, was out of the country yesterday. So there is an unanswered question: what happened to his two-year leave of absence arrangement with Baring Brothers, the accepting house?

This, according to government statements at the time, was the arrangement when Williams, then a managing director at the bank, took over he Commission. Barings, where Williams was for eseven years, declined to comment yesterday.

Williams is not the first public sectord recruit to have had problems getting back into the private sector. Sir Leslie Murphy was deputy chairman of Schroders when he went to join the National Enterprise Board but has since, after resigning the NEB chairmanship, gone back to Schroders as a non-executive director.

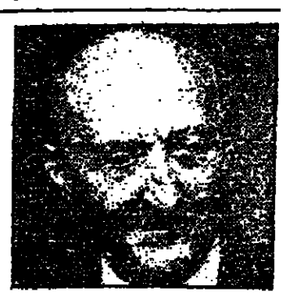
It looks as if it can only get harder to find good people willing to accept full-time stints in public service jobs if the price of the honour is to put one's career at risk.

● Otmar Emminger's send-off as president of the West German Federal Bank did not go off at all as planned in Frankfurt yesterday.

True, the cream of West German business life did turn up to toast Emminger and his successor Karl-Otto Poehl in champagne, but out in the Frankfurt streets the name Deutsche Bundesbank was linked with another and far less august gathering.

That took place in a Frankfurt court earlier this week, when three former Federal Bank officials were set free—albeit with suspended sentences and heavy fines—for making off with £713,000 worth of old banknotes that should have gone into the incinerator.

The three conservationists have none the less become local heroes in Frankfurt. The taxi driver who took our man to the Emminger do did not know anything about the change of president. He did know all about the court case, though, and nearly crashed his cab in his eagerness to look over his shoulder and tell his passengers all about it.



Otmar Emminger

● Michael Goldstein, who founded New York's *Soho Weekly News* (sold to the UK's Associated Newspapers this year), is planning a daily newspaper for brokers, to be called *The Wall Street Final.*

Goldstein plans to sell his newspaper only in the Wall Street area and aims for a daily circulation of about 45,000. He says that new printing technology will allow him to have within an hour of the 4 pm closing of the New York Stock Exchange a newspaper on the streets that carries all the closing share prices, as well as that afternoon's news.

By using news agency material rather than his own journalists, Goldstein reckons he can edit, compose and print the paper within 30 minutes each afternoon so that brokers can buy it on the way home.

A couple of years ago some money men launched the *Trib* as a big New York paper, but it quickly collapsed. Good luck, Goldstein.

Prestel is the Post Office's modern way of getting accurate information at the press of a button, but when the National Consumer Council wanted a list of places where Prestel could be consulted the Post Office came up with a list of 23—eight of which (including two pubs) were wrong.

Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Equities drift as rally fades away

The Stock Market resumed its neglected look yesterday as the pre-Christmas malaise resumed after Wednesday's attempt at a technical rally.

Dealers moaned about the hours of boredom experienced as investors' attention turned to activities of a more seasonal nature. This left equities and Government securities with a fairly drab look as they traded between narrow levels.

Gold shares a buoyant market of late, were below their best as overnight profit taking on the bullion price found them falling towards levels of earlier in the week.

Seekers of recovery stocks are alighting on Associated Engineering. The shares are now 73p after 60½p just before last week's results with their £10m dive to £19m in profits in the year to last September. However, profits this year are thought by some to be on their way to around £26m or more, and the shares probably yield a prospective 13.5 per cent.

Even the money supply figures, which were as bad as feared last week, came and went without gaining a flicker of reaction from the market.

Gilt edged were mostly unchanged at the long end but shorts which opened firm encountered some fairly active two-way trading as buyers switched positions and seemed mostly unaffected by the gloomy bulletin issued by the Bank of England urging industry to cut spending. So that by the close they registered rises of about £¼ on the day.

After opening 1.1 down the FT Index went on to close at its lowest point of the day 1.9 down at 420.2.

Glaxo provided the one bright spot among an otherwise subdued list of leading industrials rising 3p to 443p, after 446p, after reports that it had been given the price of its pharmaceutical products for the first time in seven years. But profit taking clipped 4p from Fisons at 260p after its decision not to go ahead with its acquisition of Agricultural Holdings. Pilkington Bros was 3p lower at 203p while the new slipped 2p to 3p premium and falls of 1 were noted in ICI at 369p and Beecham at 119p.

ERF featured prominently among companies reporting with an 8p rise to 97p following its increased interim profits and higher dividend. But reduced profits and no final dividend saw Hawkins & Tipson slide by the same amount to 34p. A disappointing 5 per cent rise in profits at Scottish & Newcastle resulted in a 3p fall to 62½p while Unigate with profits below most expectations and a warning on current prospects by the chairman managed to remain firm at 111p. In the meantime, British Steam Specialists rose 3p to 91p and Granada advanced 6p to 135p after their trading announcements. But falls were reported in Edbro 6p lower at 111p, R. Paterson 3p off at 36p and S. Hoffnung 1p lower at 70p.

Shares in United Carriers jumped 14p to 138p after news that Lex Service Group, unchanged at 85p, has increased its stake to nearly 29 per cent. But among builders A. Monk dipped a further 2p to 30p after news of losses and no dividend earlier this week, while Blue Circle Industries firmed 6p to 244p on further reflection of its sale of its Genstar interests.

Ladbroke retreated 2p to 136p on profit taking following the decision to allow the group to appeal against its casino closures and Dunbee-Combex-Marx jumped 4p to 31p after the sale of some of its assets in its United States subsidiary. Further reflection of Nottingham Brick's figures earlier in the week was good for an 8p rise at 348p.

Gold shares were mostly lower as a direct result of profit taking on the bullion price which tumbled $20 to $469 overnight. West Driefontein tumbled $5¼ to $67¾, St Helena fell $1¼ to $24, Vaal retreated $5¼ to $58¼, and Anglo American Gold was $4¼ lighter at $69. Elsewhere in mines RTZ improved 5p to 422p and Tanks advanced 8p to 334p in connexion with the Ashton Mines find. Union Corporation returning from suspension after merger talks with General Mining rose 5c to $11¼ while General improved $¼ to $14¾. Australians were again active with Northern Mining leaping 22p to 137p.

Profit taking clipped 3p from C. T. Bowring at 131p and other insurance brokers like Sedgwick Forbes and Minet Holdings were firm at 93p and 99p. Most of the major insurance groups remained dull with Commercial Union 1p lighter at 140p and falls of 2p reported in GRE at 230p, General Accident at 218p and Pearl at 274p.

The continued deadlock in Caracas and the threat of further reductions of oil supplies left oil shares lower. BP slid 10p to 344p and the new trimmed 8p to 147p while Shell gave up 4p to 328p. Oil Exploration was 10p lower at 660p and merger partner Lasmo clipped 5p from the price at 348p. But hopes of a share split saw Siebens improve 12p to 406p after 420p.

Ferranti was the star turn among electricals where hopes of a bid from Racal, 5p down at 190p, boosted the shares 8p to 407p. Elsewhere, the picture was less rosy with Thorn 6p off at 288p, GEC 4p lower at 332p and ICL 3p easier at 292p. Profit taking clipped 9p from Electrocomponents at 441p.

Amalgamated Power Engineering are now at 65p, only 5p away from the 1978-79 low. Internal disputes and lorry drivers spoilt first half profits (down from £3.1m to £796,000) and the engineering strike comes into the second half. But the dividend is to be maintained, and order books are said to be again filling up.

Banks were a firm feature although most closed a little of the top. Rises of 6p were achieved in National Westminster at 351p and Barclays at 421p while Lloyds was 5p better at 308p as was Grindlays at 111p and Royal Bank of Scotland at 269p.

Equity turnover on December 19, was £78.131m (10,578 bargains).

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Erit Steam Spec (I)	21.4(17.3)	1.53(1.23)	—(—)	1.5(1.5)	18/1	—(5.21)
Cronite (F)	9.08(6.8)	0.48(0.25)	11.0(5.8)	2.13(1.85)	29/2	2.9(2.6)
Dorankandie Rub (I)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	0.75(0.55)	1/2	—(—)
Edbro Hldgs (I)	16.95(16.46)	0.45(1.39)	5.51(19.2)	2.27(2.27)	31/1	—(9.03)
Erf Hldgs (I)	39.5(33.0)	1.75(1.61)	—(—)	2.1(0.33)	29/1	—(3.4)
Hawkins Tipson (F)	18.39(19.08)	0.23(1.0)	3.03(14.4)	—(3.45)	—	1.0(4.45)
Hazlewoods (I)	3.5(3.3)	0.25(0.2)	8.8(7.19)	1.63(1.63)	23/1	—(4.0)
S. Hoffnung (I)	44.0(44.9)	0.66(0.80)	1.10(1.21)	1.48(1.48)	9/4	—(—)
Marston T (I)	15.2(13.3)	3.0(2.5)	6.9(5.9)	1.2(0.8)	26/1	—(2.5)
Nrtn & Wright Cp (I)	—(—)	3.2(2.8)	5.21(6.3)	1.28(0.7)	—	—(—)
Nova (Jersey) (I)	3.9(3.6)	0.16(0.15)	5.13(4.7)	1.5(1.0)	13/2	—(—)
R. Paterson (I)	8.2(6.9)	0.2(0.18)	1.24(1.07)	0.62(1.0)	9/2	4.0(3.36)
Petbow (I)	7.1(10.0)	0.57a(1.1)	5.64a(6.47)	1.5(1.5)	31/1	—(4.5)
Philip Harris (I)	6.4(6.3)	0.37(0.47)	5.51(7.12)	1.45(1.45)	31/1	—(5.0)
Scot & H'castle (I)	240.0(208.0)	22.6(21.6)	5.5(5.9)	1.5(1.45)	7/4	—(3.98)
Silverthorne Grp (F)	4.21(3.9)	0.27(0.27)	5.46(4.21)	1.0(1.5)	28/2	—(—)
Trustees Corp (I)	—(—)	2.1(1.4)	—(—)	0.9(0.6)	5/2	—(—)
Unoctrome Int (F)	13.15(11.7)	0.86(0.22)	2.3(0.12)	0.17(—)	28/2	—(—)
Unigate (I)	571.0(500.0)	18.3(15.1)	6.97(5.9)	2.0(1.5)	3/3	—(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=Loss.

Granada climbs 15 pc

By Rosemary Unsworth

The independent television strike cost Granada £1.8m in lost profits last year. Nevertheless, the group showing an overall 14.6 per cent climb in pretax profits.

Turnover for the year to September 29 1979 rose by 11 per cent to £277.5m while profits, which had grown by 20 per cent in the first half, came out at £39m compared to £34m for the previous year. The market responded to the announcement by moving the share price 6p higher to 135p.

Mr Alex Bernstein, who succeeded Lord Bernstein as chairman in September, pointed out that only seven weeks of the television strike were included in the results. The remaining four weeks, appearing in the current year, are expected to show pro rata costs.

But Granada stressed that current advertising bouyancy may help to offset some of the effects of the dispute.

The motorway services division almost doubled profits from £1.3m to £2.57m during the year following the implementation of the Prior report recommendations which reduced the group's rental costs and improved turnover from £30m to £38.4m.

UK television rental, which contributes more than half the group's total profits, also saw improved growth and Granada is encouraged by the initial results from video cassette recorders' entry on the market although this area may be hit by the consumer spending down turn. The overseas operations showed an improvement and rental showrooms have increased by 20 to 158.

Properties, books and music publishing which together contribute 6 per cent of group profits, all showed growth and are expected to contribute slightly more this year.

The final dividend proposed at 3.56p gross, will represent a 76 per cent increase on last year's 2.2p, making a total of 5.6p gross.

Hawkins & Tipson sharply lower

Rope, wire, and furniture manufacturers Hawkins and Tipson reported drastically lower net profits at £238,000 compared with £1m for the year to August 31, 1979. Turnover was also down to £18.39m against £19.08m.

The board state that the disappointing and unsatisfactory results are due to excess manufacturing facilities for traditional business at a time of declining markets and world over capacity.

Disputes bring half-year fall at Edbro

By Baron Phillips

The engineering strike a go-slow during the summ caused a major profits tumb for the engineers Edbro Ho ings.

At the half-way stage r board reports a substantial f in pre-tax profits from la year's £1.59m to £464,000 f the six months ended Septemb 30, 1979. Turnover during h period increased marginally r by £500,000 to £16.96m again £16.46m.

The group was also affect by the upward movement in i terest rates during the s months resulting in a more th doubling of interest charges, u from £207,000 to £474,000. Th situation was further exace bated by a major warehou move at the start of the ye and the high stock leve caused by the summer's disput

Chairman Mr Lawrence Ti dale says that the strike an the overtime ban hit the group potential profits extreme hard. He estimates the grou lost around £500,000 on th strike itself and almost a sim lar amount from the overtim ban. There is little doubt h says that without the industri problems last summer pre ta profits would have been in lin with the same period last yea

On a more optimistic note M Tindale is forecasting pre ta profits for the current half yea of around £1.5m which woul take the year's total to just un der £2m.

Drop of 33pc at St Piran

By Michael Prest

St Piran, the controversial mining and property company which is to be the object of a Department of Trade inquiry, has announced a fall in half-time profits.

Results to the end of September show pre-tax profits down 33.7 per cent to £1.16m. Turnover rose from £9.89m to £10.5m. Profits from South Crofty, the Cornish tin mine in which St Piran has a 55.5 per cent stake were depressed by a strike, the company says.

There is no mention of the management changes at South Crofty.

St Piran reports that between June and August the company's holding in Milbury, a house building concern, increase from 79.9 per cent to 86.3 per cent. Milbury has a sizeable land bank, to which it added in the first half.

St Piran's figures include an extraordinary item of £157,000 from foreign bank loans. Earnings per share fell from 6.75p to 5.11p. The directors also reduced the interim dividend from 1.5p to 1p.

The directors say that they expect profits from Milbury for the full year to be satisfactory, while the price of tin should buoy up South Crofty.

Last week the company's annual general meeting saw angry scenes as shareholders tried to oust the directors, establish the use of certain funds and ascertain the location of shareholdings. It was this meeting which precipitated the Department of Trade inquiry.

Losses at Petbow Holdings

By Alison Mitchell

The cost of the engineering strike to generating and welding set manufacturer Petbow Holdings has given the group a substantial first-half loss.

With all the factories closed during the dispute the group turned in an interim loss of £576,000 in the six months to September 30, 1979, against a £1.1m profit last time on turnover which dipped from £10m to £7.2m.

However, even without the industrial action, Petbow would have been fortunate to do more than break even in the period under review. Reduced demand for generating sets in their main markets of Nigeria, Iraq and Iran coupled to strong competition from the United States, where the weaker dollar is boosting overseas sales, are already hitting turnover.

Petbow exports around 70 per cent of its sales and is starting up a new factory in Singapore in April to compete in the South East Asia markets.

Although the board warns that the losses will continue into the second half there are signs that the problem overseas markets are getting stronger.

Nigeria has relaxed its previous restrictions on imports and the run down stocks will have to be replaced.

Interest charges are running at a high level but the board is confident that net borrowings at the year end will be no higher than at the end of the previous accounting period when they amounted to almost £4m.

The interim dividend has been maintained at 2.14p.

Options

Activity among traded options remained at a fairly low ebb yesterday with total contracts tumbling to 166 compared with the previous day's total of 429, the lowest figure since September 17.

Declaration day among traditional options, as to be expected, provided a slightly firmer spot. Interest remained in oil shares while elsewhere, calls were made in Ladbroke, Lonhro and C. T. Bowring. Puts were arranged in "W" Ribbons, Howard Tenneys and ZCI while doubles were completed in House of Fraser.

Joint venture agreed between Tubes and GE

Agreement, subject to board approval, has been reached between Tube Investments and General Electric of America, for GE to acquire its 51 per cent share of the jointly-owned industrial electrical business on December 31 for $20m (about £43m).

The joint venture between Tubes and GE was established in the field of motor control gear and switchgear 15 years ago.

The partnership developed successfully and with the acquisition of Allen West and Wallacetown and the inclusion of TI's distribution equipment and lighting companies, it became a substantial and profitable venture.

This venture has operated in recent years as part of GE's contractor equipment business division activities and has become more aligned with GE's mainstream, whereas TI's contribution to its direction and development has lessened.

This further investment by GE reaffirms its commitment to the future growth of business.

Lex Service raises stake in Utd Carriers

Lex Service Group has increased its stake in the transport company, United Carriers through the acquisition of a further 1.462m shares from the Transport Development Group. This takes Lex's holding in UCL to more than 28 per cent. Transport Development has effectively withdrawn from the company.

A spokesman for Lex said that the group has no intention of either acquiring more shares in UCL or making a bid for the company. Lex, he said, regarded its original 16.6 per cent stake as a "sensible investment" and expects the enlarged holding to be an equally good investment.

The purchase price was 135p a share and will be satisfied by the issue of 1.1m new ordinary Lex shares and £1.066m in cash.

Level pegging at Silverthorne

West Midlands-based manufacturers of housewares and consumer goods Silverthorne produced profits exactly in line with last year for the 12 months to September 30, 1979.

Pre-tax profits of £274,000 were achieved on turnover marginally up from last year's £3.98m to £4.21m. Net profits after tax come out slightly higher at £191,000 compared with £147,000 last time.

Chairman, Mr Bernard Owens has announced his intention to retire from the board prior to the annual general meeting in February and Mr Raymond Le Page, currently managing director, will be elected chairman.

Cronite profit nearly doubled

Somerset-based alloy casters and fabricators Cronite managed to nearly double profits in the year to September 30, 1979. Pre-tax profits moved ahead by nearly £220,000 to £480,000 against £263,000 on turnover up from £6.87m to £9.08m.

The board attributes the increase to improvements in margins and the rationalization of the companies subsidiaries. Although the recently-acquired agricultural equipment company produced disappointing figures the board remains optimistic about future trading prospects.

Profits slip at Philip Harris

Staffordshire-based scientific apparatus manufacturers Philip Harris saw pre-tax profits slip from £479,000 to £371,000 in the six months to September 30, 1979. Turnover during the period fell marginally to £6.47m against £6.5m.

The group states that home sales of the science educational companies have held up well despite expenditure cut-backs in the sector. The board says steps have been taken to strengthen the group's leading position in the home market and to reinforce its overseas representation.

R. Paterson ahead at half year

On the back of a rise in turnover from £6.9m to £8.2m, pre-tax profits of R. Paterson the "camp coffee" group rose from £182,000 to £210,000. Earnings a share are up from 1.07p to 1.24p. The interim dividend is 0.89p against 1.57p gross.

The trend of a less favourable first half, due to the seasonal nature of certain of the group's major products, is again reflected in the results. Trading conditions in the UK were difficult and heavy increases in costs, put pressure on margins.

The final results are difficult to forecast.

Deal by Harrisons & Crosfield

Harrisons and Crosfield reports that contracts have been exchanged for purchase from Cartwright and Co (Importers) of the whole of the issued share capitals of Cartwright & Co (Boards), Cartwright & Co (Building Supplies), Cartwright & Co (Fencing) and Cartwright & Co (Timber).

These companies all operate in the Birmingham area.

The consideration will be the net tangible asset value of the companies at December 3 and Harrisons will also discharge the group loans due from the companies to importers at that date.

Banking offshoot sold by T Cowie

The T Cowie group has sold Red Dragon Securities, its wholly owned banking subsidiary, to Avco Financial Services for £2.2m cash.

The net tangible assets of RDS at September 30 amounted to about £1.15m whilst its profits before tax for the year to that date were £228,000.

Taking into account the borrowings, including deposits of RDS, and on the basis that the sale proceeds will be applied in the first instance in reducing bank overdrafts, the transaction will reduce the group borrowings of Cowie—about £19.2m at September 30—by a total of approx £8.2m.

Cavenham terms gen Weingarten

Cavenham Holdings Inc, the United States arm of Sir James Goldsmith's business interests, is offering $12 a share for the outstanding stock in Weingarten Inc, a United States supermarket chain.

Weingarten has stores in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. The offer, which is worth £28m ($14m) and is being made through Cavenham Holdings' subsidiary Cavenham Texas, was agreed last month.

The acquisition will add about $550m to the turnover of Grand Union; an East coast supermarket chain which is a subsidiary of Cavenham Inc. Grand Union's sales are about $3,000m a year.

S. Hoffnung dips at half time

General wholesalers and retailers S. Hoffnung saw turnover dip during the half year to September 30, 1979, coming out at £44.08m compared with £45m in the same period last year and £48.28m in the six months to March 31, 1979.

There was also an easing of profits during the period with group pre-tax profit at £664,000 compared with £801,000.

The group operates mainly in Australia and the board state there will be large loses arising in the second half of the current year resulting from the closure of the wholesale division in Sydney and Brisbane.

Fourfold rise at Unuchrome Int

Despite problems in the engineering industry Unochrome International managed to almost quadruple pre-tax profits in the year to September 30, 1979. Profits rose from £222,000 to £860,000 on turnover up from £11.73m to £13.15m.

The board states that the executive management reorganization and the new divisional structure referred to last year has been effective and the United Kingdom companies have performed well. Chairman Mr Bernard Owens is to retire before the annual general meeting and will be succeeded by the present managing director Raymond Le Page.

NOTTINGHAM BRICK
Sales for year to September 30, £3.0m (£2.1m). Pre-tax profit, £641,400 (£635,300). Earnings per share, 42.5p (63.8p). Dividend total of 25.78p gross (18.41).

BROWNLEE AND CO
Interim dividend of 1.428 gross has been declared (0.85 gross). Sales for half year to September 29 — 26 weeks — £12.1m (27 weeks, £10.8m). Pre-tax profit was £838,000 (£405,000). Earnings per share were 8p (4.2p).

SPENCER CLARK METAL INDS
Sales for year to September 30, £10.0m (£8.2m). Pre-tax profit, £562,000 (£157,000). Dividend total, 2.56 (2.38) gross. Improving profit trend is being maintained in spite of effects of the transport and engineering strikes.

COOPER INDUSTRIES
Interim dividend of 0.6p gross will be paid on April 2 (0.5p). Turnover for half year to October 31, £12.0m (£10.1m). Pre-tax profit was £437,000 (£1.2m). Industrial disputes are blamed for having caused a severe hiccup in results.

DANAE INVESTMENT TRUST
Gross revenue for half-year to Nov 30, £282,000 (£291,500). Net revenue £123,000 (£141,000) after tax. Earnings per income share 1.76p (2.02p). Interim 2.28p (2.23p) gross.

HUME INVESTMENT TRUST
Acceptances have now been received in respect of 4.77m at 6 per cent convertible cumulative redeemable preference shares (95.4 per cent of the issue) on offer made on behalf of Orient and General Investments, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rothschild Investment Trust.

STANHOPE GENERAL
Stanhope General Investment increased group income by more than £16,000 for half-year to September 29, 1979 to £89,000. Pre-tax profit fell from last year's £58,000 to £51,000. Interim dividend 1.4p per share declared together with a special ordinary dividend of 0.65p.

EQUITY CONSORT INV TST
Group revenue after all charges including tax for six months to October 31, £207,000 (£143,000). Interim 3.57p gross (3.04p).

Briefly

BLUEMEL BROS
Turnover for year to Sept 29, £5.00m (£5.17m). Pre-tax profit £189,000 (£313,000). EPS 4.36p (7.22p). Dividend 5.45p (5.69p) gross.

HARTWELLS GROUP
Agreement reached for Hartwells to purchase C and L (coordinating) for £924,000 in shares. C and L has a turnover of about £6m.

TOOTAL ACQUISITION
Tootal has made a formal offer to acquire Humphrey Lloyd & Sons, a Manchester-based textile company, for £430,000 cash.

CREST HOTELS
Group has purchased Hampshire Moat House hotel located in Basingstoke, from Queens Moat Houses.

This 85-bedroom hotel will be known as the Crest Hotel, Basingstoke, and is an important addition to this wholly-owned hotels subsidiary of Bass.

NORTHERN FOODS
Resolution to approve the proposed acquisition of Bluebird Inc was passed at EGM. Completion of acquisition is due to take place on January 4.

CHARLES CLIFFORD INDS
Underwriting arrangements have been completed for a rights issue of one 12 per cent cumulative convertible preference share of £1 at £1.20 for every 4 shares held.

In addition, shareholders will be asked to approve the allotment of 167,000 similar shares to the London Trust Co. Issue will raise £565,000 to finance modernization.

ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE
Following discussions group has bought the Pendle Insurance for about £1.4m in five equal instalments. Over 1978 Pendle made pre-tax loss £31,000. Net assets attributable to Pendle shareholders at that date were £998,000.

NEW COURT NATURAL RESOURCES
Managing director of subsidiary Exploration & Production Services (Holdings), Mr J. Trewhella, who is buying out New Court's stake for £1.5m, is also buying the £210,000 unsecured loan notes of Expro's subsidiary held by NCNR.

NOVA (JERSEY) KNIT
Sales for half-year to September 9, £3.9m (£3.6m). Pre-tax profit, £169,000 (£152,000). Earnings per share 5.13p (4.72p). Interim dividend 2.1p gross (1.428p gross).

TKM-WADHAM STRINGER
Acceptances of offer made on behal of Tozer Kemsley and Millbourn (Holdings) for preference shares of Wadham Stringer have been received on 95.87 per cent of equity and it now fully unconditional.

NCIAL NEWS

RF sales hit by dispute

Financial Staff

e commercial vehicle urer, ERF (Holdings) £500,000 in profits f the engineering dis- he first half but man- show an 8 per cent ent on last year's

vent up by 19.5 per £39.5m while pre-tax ose from £1.6m to the 28 weeks to Octo- 979. Mr Peter Foden, said that the dispute ior impact on the half- rofit figure as it n a substantial fall in es at the time.

lastics, which contri- out 10 per cent of profits, more than its profits and ERF plans to expand its activities. But the fire fighting vehicle and appliance market continued to suffer from the cutback in public expenditure in Britain although overseas business, which now accounts for a third of turnover, is growing. "We expect a substantial improvement in the second half because of the overseas business", Mr Foden said.

"Third quarter results have been encouraging and with a reasonable final quarter, the full year's results should be up to expectations."

Last year the group made pre-tax profits of £3.3m.

The interim dividend has gone up from 0.5p gross to 3p gross with the end of dividend restraint.

Mr Peter Foden, chairman of ERF (Holdings).

Brit Steam Specialities 24pc ahead

Leicester-based pipeline equipment suppliers British Steam Specialties managed to push pretax trading profits ahead by 24 per cent. For the six months to September 30, 1979, profits moved up from £1.23m to £1.53m on turnover higher at £21.44m against £17.37m.

The main business of the group is the distribution and supply of industrial and heating equipment.

In August 1973 both Bestobell and UDT Industries made offers to acquire the whole of the companies issued share capital but the bids lapsed the following month.

The steady increase in British Steam's business over the period under review results from the group's policy of developing and extending trade. The board says it is now reaping the benefit of the capital investment programme and has increased the number of its branches around the country to about 35.

This expansion programme is constantly under review and although it is unlikely more branches will be opened in the current half the board says further premises will come on stream over the next two or three years.

Chairman Mrs Helen Waudby is cautiously optimistic about the future. In her annual statement she said that in spite of somewhat flat conditions the directors were budgeting for increased profits.

Sony parent company hits record

Sony Corporation of Japan has announced that its parent company's net profit and sales registered an all-time high to the end of October, supported by rising exports and brisk sales of video taperecorders.

Sony's consolidated earnings report showed, however, that net profit declined by 31.5 per cent primarily because of foreign exchange losses.

As Japan's leading manufacturer of acoustic equipment and colour television, the company said its parent company's net profit went up 34.1 per cent in the year to 26.36bn yen from 19.664bn yen in the preceding year. Sales were 469.018bn yen, up 13.3 per cent from 413.92bn yen a year earlier. Per share profit went up to 122.25 yen from 91.20 yen.

Officials attributed the robust sales and net profit increases mainly to increasing exports due to the yen's downturn. Exports went up 14.1 per cent to total 287.587bn yen from 252.094bn yen in 1978.

Domestic sales were 181.431bn yen, up 12.1 per cent from 161.826bn yen in the previous year. Officials also said that in the latest year there were no losses resulting from foreign exchange fluctuations.

Sony has been courting the United States investor almost as long as it has been wooing the United States consumer, and for quite a while it met with resounding success in both endeavours. Of late, however, it has been running into problems on both fronts.

The Japanese concern is not just a pioneer in developing acoustic equipment. In 1961, it also became the first Japanese company to sell stock in the United States. In 1970, its stock became the first Japanese issue listed on the New York Stock Exchange, and now it has listings on the Pacific and Midwest exchanges, as well.

Japan's growth hopes

Mitsubishi Research institute of Japan has predicted that the country's real economic growth

International

in 1980 will be 3.5 per cent, compared with an estimated 6.2 per cent in 1980.

The private research body also forecast a Japanese current account deficit of $14.90bn in 1980, compared with an estimated $13.60bn deficit in 1979.

Volvo shares resume

AB Volvo's Kr50 nominal shares were quoted in early trading yesterday at Kr71.50, little changed from Tuesday's late 71.72 range, bource sources said.

Quotes were suspended pending the joint announcement in Genera by Volvo and Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault relating to their plans for future expanded car cooperation.

Massey Ferguson

Massey-Ferguson says its consolidated earnings for the year ended October 31, including three non-operating items, totalled $36.9m.

These items were an extraordinary tax credit of $95.4m, a net exchange gain of $6.3m and provision for reorganization for $73m and a net exchange loss of $57.3m. All figures are in United States funds.

Mobil optimistic

Mobil Corporation of United States "appears to be on the way to another very good year in 1979", according to Mr Alex H. Massad, vice-president of Mobil's exploration and producing division.

The company has already earned $1.4bn (about £65m) in the first nine months of this year. For all of 1978 Mobil earned a record £1.1bn.

Mr Massad said that during the first nine months of this year, Mobil saw a "turnaround from depressed levels of downstream earnings both overseas and in the United States".

Reynolds—Signal

R. J. Reynolds Industries of America says its energy subsidiary Aminoil US acquired the remaining 49 per cent in Signal Petroleum which it did not already hold for $58m (about £27m).

Signal's total proven reserves were about 10 million barrels of crude oil and condensate and 85.000 million cubic feet of natural this year.

Bestobell re-jig in S E Asia

As part of a planned programme of rationalization and reorganization, the interests of Bestobell in South East Asia are to be managed through Bestobell Australia.

This subsidiary is 78 per cent owned by the group and is quoted on the Sydney Stock Exchange. It has a consistent profit record over many years.

The South East Asia interests comprise Bestobell Malaysia and Bestobell Singapore private, together with newly-formed subsidiaries in Hongkong and Thailand.

The net tangible assets of these companies, valued at about £870,000, have been purchased by Bestobell Australia. In addition, an amount will be payable for goodwill, related to earnings in 1980 and 1981.

ENSO GUTZEIT

This big Finnish engineering and paper company has extended its interests in the United Kingdom, with the purchase of two Stanley Rose companies in Kent. The acquisition, made through Enso (UK) is aimed at improving the company's European paper and board customer service.

CONSOLIDATED PLANTATIONS

Scheme of arrangement involving substitution of a new Malaysian company, Consolidated Plantations Berhad as the parent company of the Consolidated Plantations Group.

CAPARO—EMPIRE PLANTS

Caparo Group has purchased through market 1.115m Empire Plantations shares (18.82 per cent) at 24p. Before this Caparo and Persons acting in concert owned 1.43m Empire Ordinary and 119.160 Empire 5 per cent preference shares which, together with purchase, represents 43.48 per cent of equity. Caparo will extend a similar cash offer to remaining ordinary shartholders.

lfalgar sees more growth

ar House, owner of the QE2 and *Express* rs, is prepared and its profits to grow, the gloomy outlook it the world for the le of years.

an, Mr Nigel Broakes, his annual statement group was prepared s possible to operate lly in a difficult cli- that he saw no reason that profits would

stressed that shipping n lose money in the although the second profitable. This was most affected by the terling last year. The Iranian crisis and mechanical problems with the three passenger ships also took their toll providing "a thoroughly bad result" of a £5.7m profits loss.

"Various management and manning changes have been made and the prospect henceforth is for moderate profits from a growing international market", he comments.

The joint property development with Whitbreads of Chiswell Street is due for completion in 1980 and 1981. The twin office towers, the largest development of its kind undertaken in central London for years, will each provide more than 200,000 square feet.

The newspaper and magazine division needs to make "a distinct improvement in results for the whole group to move up to an altogether higher level of returns", stressed Mr Broakes. Although the *Sunday Express*, the *Evening Standard* and the *Daily Express* did better than in the previous year, these results were neutralized by the *Daily Star's* figures. "This newspaper did well to reach the £1m sales mark in such a short time but it has developed its advertising revenues more slowly than was expected."

United States activities are now more promising despite formidable problems and an unfav ble economic climate.

rkers fear crisis at ther car company

's at one of Britain's wn specialist car firms esterday that the com- ld have reached the e road.

they prepared for the stmas break, engineers, s and office staff at Cars, of Byfleet, Surrey, now if they would have return to in the New They had just learned international firm of accountants had been to investigate the ability of the company. tock news which has an air of gloom to the at Byfleet and its in Northampton and was not intended to sed until after Christ-

t was leaked from Ireland where the nent Corporation had come up with promised And yesterday with the ers in top gear prepar- servicing Panther cars em on the road before k, accountants, Delitte, and Sells, were working to try and keep the in business.

n Bond, a spokesman receivers, said: "We ng to keep the firm as concern, but at the it is too early to say ll happen. We were appointed at noon on Tuesday and we did not know much about the business then. We have put a team in to find out all we can with a view to the company being taken over by a third party.

"We are keeping on the workforce and everyone has been paid until after the Christmas holiday. No one has been made redundant, though we cannot say at the moment whether there will be redundancies in the future.

"We have not started up the production line, but the factory is being kept busy with servicing, etc.

"We were hoping that the news of our appointment would not get out until after Christmas when we would have been in a much better position to talk about the situation, but unfortunately it came out in Northern Ireland.

"The trouble seems to be that the company had expanded and was expecting an injection of money from the Northern Ireland Development Corporation, and when this did not materialize the bank called us in."

Mr Bond said that they were still hopeful of investment from Northern Ireland and that Mr Ian Paisley, MP, was due to visit the factory at Byfleet yesterday to talk about its future.

rstons group up 22pc

n Thompson & Ever- Burton-based brewer Whitbread has a 35 stake, pushed pre-tax p by 22 per cent to the half-year to Sep- 30. Sales during the rose from £13.3m to

gs per share rose from 6.94p and shareholders red with a 35 per cent in the interim dividend to 1.78p gross. The also planning a one- scrip issue.

oard states that despite uncertainties it ex- company to hold on to of the beer market.

Last year the group increased profits from £4.2m to £4.5m and reported earlier this year that its volume sales were running 5 per cent ahead of the previous period.

Having increased its capital spending by some £700,000 to £2.2m last year the group is continuing a extensive modernisation programme, which includes replacing plant in the brewery and refurbishing many of its 600 public houses.

However, with cash and short-term deposits of almost £4m at the year-end the programme has so far been met from internal resources.

ss appointments

ire post in Japan for mer ambassador

Tadao Kato, Japanese dor in London from til March this year, has ppointed counsellor in o John Swire & Sons, company of the Swire

M. Saunders, a director ed and Company Hold- oins the board of its y British Castors.

A. Connell, managing of John Walker & Son, ed the board of The Dis- Company.

L. Preedy will succeed L. Preedy as chairman of Alfred Preedy and Sons on his retirement.

Mr E. Norris has been appointed chairman of Hartley Cooper Holdings and Hartley Cooper & Co in succession to Mr J. P. F. Ive, who has resigned for health reasons. Mr M. J. Grint succeeds him as chairman of Hartley Cooper UK.

Mr Roger Steel has joined the board of Sangers Group.

Mr M. A. Butt, Mr J. M. Payne and Mr R. C. Steven have been appointed directors of Sedgwick Forbes Bland Payne.

Mr J. Taylor has been made a director of Bacon Everitt Morris & Associates.

Mr R. E. Lucas, general manager of Lucas CAV, has been made a director of Joseph Lucas.

Mr M. E. Hazell and Mr K. A. Oram become directors of Sterling Industries.

Mr G. L. Lawrence has been appointed managing director of Zenith Carburetter.

Mr Paul Cater Hyde-Thomson joins the board of Cedar Investment Trust.

Mr H. T. Cohn, Mr L. J. Cordle, Mr P. G. Barnard, Mr D. W. Ingram, Mr A. W. McCall, Mr J. P. Manning, Mr G. D. Miller and Mr C. P. Scott form the new board of British National Life Insurance Society.

Sir Henry Chilver has been appointed a non-executive director of Powell Duffryn.

Mr Martin Pendred becomes assistant director of the banking division of Standard Chartered Merchant Bank and Mr Thomas Pomeroy assistant director of the bank's international bonds division.

MONEY SUPPLY

[illegible]

	Sterling M1 £000m	Sterling M3 £000m	Percentage change over three months annual rate M1	M3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

change in sterling M3 and credit expansion (£m).

	Domestic credit expansion	Effect on central finance	Net private sector lending	Sterling M3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Annualised growth rate %: [illegible]. Domestic credit expansion: [illegible]. Annual equivalent: [illegible]. Fixed rate of growth since June. Government target [illegible].

MARKET REPORTS

Discount market

The Bank of England sold a small quantity of Treasury bills direct to the discount houses yesterday to absorb surplus funds, but it looked at the end of the day as though bank balances going through to today would still be above target.

Though it was a surplus day on the basis of underlying factors, this barely showed at surace level in the market until right at the end of the session. During the morning, after opening their rates around 15¾-½ per cent, houses found it necessary to push their bids up to the 16 per cent area. And in the quiet conditions they were still able to only make slow progress. After lunch, the picture became a little patchy, but rates eventually tailed off.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 17%
(Last changed 15/11/79)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 17%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 18 Low 11
Week Fixed 16-15½

Treasury Bills (Dis %)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	15⅜	2 months	15¼
3 months	15⅞	3 months	15⅝

Prime Bank Bills (Dis %) Trades (Dis %)

2 months	[illegible]	3 months	[illegible]
3 months	[illegible]	4 months	[illegible]
4 months	[illegible]	6 months	[illegible]
6 months	[illegible]		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	[illegible]	7 months	[illegible]
2 months	[illegible]	8 months	[illegible]
3 months	[illegible]	9 months	[illegible]
4 months	[illegible]	10 months	[illegible]
5 months	[illegible]	11 months	[illegible]
6 months	[illegible]	12 months	[illegible]

Secondary Mkt. £ CD Rates (%)

1 month	[illegible]	6 months	[illegible]
3 months	[illegible]	12 months	[illegible]

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	[illegible]	3 months	17
7 days	[illegible]	6 months	[illegible]
1 month	[illegible]	1 year	[illegible]

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open [illegible] Close [illegible]

1 week	[illegible]	6 months	[illegible]
1 month	[illegible]	9 months	[illegible]
3 months	[illegible]	12 months	[illegible]

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)

3 months	17⅝	6 months	16⅞

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Spirall Chem 10p ord (50)	[illegible]
SP News (5p)	247-8
Fogarty E. Dmd	91
Formminster 10% Cum Pf	97
Haynes Pub ord (120)	124-1
London Tst 13% Db 2000-05 (£95)	[illegible]
Mucklow A. & J. 13% Db 2000-05 (£95)	[illegible]
Spring Grove ord (70)	[illegible]
[illegible] Cum Pf	100
Treasury 13% 1985	[illegible]
Do 13% 1999-01	[illegible]
Winthrop 10% Cum Pf	99½

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Hampderson (90)	..	130+4
Pilkington Bros (200)	..	3-2

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £10 paid. b £25 paid. † Fully paid. e £30 paid.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Crdts	17%
C. Hoare & Co	*17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster ..	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 15%, up to £25,000 15¼%, over £25,000 15½%.

Wall Street

New York, Dec 20.—Stocks rose as the New York Stock Exchange index added 0.03 to 62.08 and the average price per share four cents. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 4.43 to 843.34 and advances led declines 785 to 717. Turnover eased to 40,380,000 shares from 41,780,000 yesterday.

After the close the Federal Reserve said New York business loans, excluding bankers acceptances, rose $1,200m and the basic money stock rose $800m.

Volume leader RCA Corporation gained ⅛ to 22½ blocks of 242,000 and 144,0000 shares traded at 21½. Second place Chrysler was unchanged at 7⅛.

Silver falls 20 cents

New York, Dec 20. COMEX SILVER futures hold moderate closing losses of 20 cents on new selling brought on by the prediction of Shaikh Yamani, oil minister, Saudi Arabia, of a world oil supply glut and lower prices next year. The forecast undercut a late rally on news Nigeria had raised its oil prices to $30 a barrel. Dec. 235.00c. Jan. 236.40c; Feb. 239.60c. March, 242.50-243.50c; May, 247.00-247.80c. July, 251.00-251.50c; Sept. 254.00-256.00c; Dec, 261.00c; Jan. 267.35c; March, 267.30c; May, 273.45c. July, 279.40c.

GOLD futures were: NY COMEX, Dec. $475.00; Jan. $474.00; Feb. $480.30-481.70; April, $492.50-495.00; June, $505.00-505.50; Aug. $516.50; Oct. $527.00; Dec. $540.10; Feb. $551.30; April, $562.40; June, $573.40; Aug. $584.40; Oct. $595.40. CHICAGO IMM. Dec $470.30-470.20 asked; March $486.00-487.20; June, $504.00-505.30 bid; Sept. $522.00 asked; Dec. $540.00-558.00 asked; March, $555.40 bid; June, $571.60 asked; Sept. $587.50 bid.

COPPER futures were: Dec. 102.00-103.00c; Jan 102.50c; Feb. 103.10c; March, 103.60-103.80c; May, 103.70-104.00c; July 103.00-104.20c; Sept. 104.00c; Dec. 103.00-104.35c; Jan. 103.10c; March 103.90c; May, 106.10c; July, 105.60c; Sept. 106.10c. **COCOA** futures were: March 132.57c; May, 143.25c; July, 143.32c; Sept. 144.00c.

COFFEE futures in "C" contract were: Dec 183.00c; March 185.10-185.40c; May, 185.00-187.25c; July, 182.50-183.25c; Sept. 183.00c; Dec. 180.50-181.99c; March, 177.00-179.00c.

COTTON futures were: March, 72.45-72.60c; May 74.19-74.25c; July, 75.55c; Oct 73.45 bid-74.10 asked; Dec. 72.60-72.65c; March, 74.00 bid-74.35 asked; May, 75.10 bid-76.00 asked.

SUGAR futures in No 11 contract were: Jan. 15.45c asked; March 16.14c high; May, 16.25c high; July, 16.25 high; Sept 16.25c high; Oct. 16.20c high. **CHICAGO SOYABEANS.**—Oil futures held gains up to 0.10 cent a lb while losing as much as 0.50 cent. Meal futures lost $1.00 a ton but firmed 30.50. **SOYABEANS**: Jan. 657½-6c; March, 689½-90½c; May, 710½-10c; July, 720½-2c; Aug. 737c; Sept. 738c; Nov. 746c; Jan. 760c. **SOYABEAN OIL**: Jan. 25.25-25c; March, 25.40-37c; May, 25.45-50c; July, 25.70-75c; Aug. 25.75c; Sept. 25.78c; Oct. 25.75-80c; Dec. 25.90-26.00c; Jan. 25.90c. **SOYABEAN MEAL**: Jan. $189.40-9.20; March, $191.00-1.20; May, $194.50; July, $198.70; Aug. $201.00; Sept. $203.50; Oct. $204.30; Dec. $206.00-8.50; Jan. $209.00-9.50. **CHICAGO GRAINS. WHEAT**: March, 451½-52c; May, 458-59c; July, 459½-60c; Sept. 471½c; Dec, 486c; March, 502c. **CORN**: March, 286½-¼c; May, 297½-¾c; July, 305½-¾c; Sept. 309½-½c; Dec. 312½-15c; March, 323½c. **OATS**: March, 158½c; May, 166½c; July, 171½c; Sept. 176c.

	Dec 20	Dec 19
Allied Chem	48⅝	47⅞
Allied Stores	22¾	23⅞
Allis Chalmers	35⅛	35
Alcoa	54¼	53⅞
Amax Inc	43⅞	43¾
Amerada Hess	43⅝	42⅝
Am Airlines	10	10
Am Brands	67	66⅝
Am Broadcast	39⅞	39
Am Can	35⅞	35¼
Am Cyanamid	33	32⅞
Am Elec Power	17⅝	17⅛
Am Home	27⅝	27⅞
Am Motors	7	6⅞
Am Nat Res	47½	47
Am Standard	56¾	56¼
Am Telephone	52⅝	52⅞
AMF Inc	14⅞	14⅞
Armco Steel	24⅞	24⅞
Asarco	29⅞	28⅝
Ashland Oil	40⅝	40⅞
Atlantic Richfield	50	51⅞
Avco	29	27¾
Avon Products	40¾	40¼
Bankers Tst NY	42⅞	42⅞
Bank of America	25¾	25⅝
Bank of NY	37⅝	37¼
Beatrice Foods	21⅛	21¼
Bell & Howell	22⅞	22⅛
Bendix	38⅞	38¾
Bethlehem Steel	20⅞	21
Boeing	50	49½
Boise Cascade	32¾	32⅞
Borden	24⅞	24⅞
Borg Warner	37	35¾
Bristol Myers	37⅞	37
BP	29⅝	31
Burlington Ind	16⅞	16⅝
Burlington Nthn	58¾	57¼
Burroughs	80⅝	80⅝
Campbell Soup	31	30⅝
Canadian Pacific	32¾	32¼a
Caterpillar	53⅞	53⅞
Celanese	46⅝	45⅝
Central Sova	13⅞	13½
Chase Manhat	38⅞	38⅝
Chem Bank NY	34¾	34¼
Chesapeake Ohio	30⅝	29⅞
Chrysler	7⅛	7⅛
Citicorp	23⅝e	23⅞
Cities Service	66	65⅝
Clark Equip	38⅝	36⅞
Coca Cola	34⅞	34¼
Colgate	14⅝	14⅞
CBS	52	51⅞
Columbia Gas	39⅝	39⅞
Combustion Eng	58⅝	58⅝
Comwlth Edison	20	20⅞
Conoco	45	47⅝
Cons Edison	24⅝	24⅞
Cons Foods	26	26⅝
Cons Power	19⅝	19⅝
Continental Grp	28⅝	28⅝
Control Data	54⅝	54⅞
Corning Glass	58⅝	57⅝
CPC Intnl	62	61⅝
Crane	32⅞	32⅞
Crocker Int	28⅝	29⅝
Crown Zeller	41⅝	42⅝
Dart Ind	41	41⅝
Deere	38⅝	38⅝
Delta Air	40	39⅞
Detroit Edison	12⅝	12⅝
Disney	43⅝	42
Dow Chemical	33	32⅞
Dresser Ind	52⅝	52⅞
Duke Power	17⅝	17⅝
Du Pont	40	39⅞
Eastern Air	6⅝	6⅝
Eastman Kodak	49⅝	48⅝
Eaton Corp	26⅞	26⅞
El Paso Nat Gas	22⅞	23⅝
Equitable Life	15⅞	15⅞
Esmark	29⅞	28⅝
Evans P. D.	22⅝	22⅝
Exxon Corp	55⅞	56⅝
Fed Dept Stores	27⅞	27⅝
Firestone	9⅛	9
Fst Chicago	13⅝	14⅝
Fst Nat Boston	28⅞	28⅝
Fst Penn Corp	8⅝	8⅝

	Dec 20	Dec 19
Ford	32½	32⅞
GAF Corp	10⅝	10½
Gamble Skogmo	33	33⅝
Gen Dynamics	58¼	58⅝
Gen Electric	49⅝	48⅝
Gen Foods	34⅞	34⅝
Gen Mills	25⅞	25⅝
Gen Motors	51⅝	50⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	7⅛	7⅛
Gen Tel Elec	28¾	28⅝
Gen Tire	20⅞	20⅝
Genesco	3⅝	3⅝
Georgia Pacific	26⅝	25⅞
Getty Oil	73⅝	75⅞
Gillette	26⅝	26
Goodrich	19⅝	19⅞
Goodyear	12⅞	13
Gould Inc	23⅞	24⅝
Grace	40½	39⅝
Gt Atlic & Pacific	7⅛	7⅛
Greyhound	14⅝	14⅝
Grumman Corp	22⅞	22⅝
Gulf Oil	36	36⅝
Gulf & West	15	17⅞
Heinz H. J.	38⅝	38⅝
Hercules	21⅛	21⅞
Honeywell	83⅝	83⅝
IC Inds	24⅞	24⅞
Ingersoll	52⅞	53
Inland Steel	31½	31½
IBM	63	64½
Int Harvester	39¾	39⅞
INCO	23	22⅞
Int Paper	37⅞	37⅞
Int Tel Tel	25⅝	25⅝
Irving Bank	35	35
Jewel Co	26⅝	26⅝
Jim Walter	30⅞	30⅞
Johns-Manville	24⅞	24
Johnson & John	80	78½
Kaiser Alumm	19⅝	18⅝
Kennecott	29⅞	29⅝
Kerr McGee	64⅝	63⅝
Kimberly Clark	41⅝	41⅞
Kraften Corp	47⅝	47
K Mart	24	24¼
Kroger	15⅝	19
Liggett Group	30¾	36
L T V Corp	9¼	9⅞
Litton	41⅝	41⅞
Lockheed	34	34
Lucky Stores	15⅝	16
Manuf Hanover	31	30⅝
Mapco	37	36⅝
Marathon Oil	49⅝	49⅝
Marine Midland	19⅝	19⅝
Martin Marietta	44⅞	44⅝
McDonnell	31⅝	34⅝
Mead	25	24⅝
Memorex	17½	17
Merck	72⅝	72
Minnesota Mng	50⅝	50
Mobil Oil	58⅝	59⅝
Monsanto	60⅞	58⅝
Morgan J. P.	45⅝	45⅝
Motorola	52⅝	51⅞
NCR Corp	70⅝	70⅞
NL Industries	35⅝	35⅝
Nabisco	21⅞	21⅞
Nat Distillers	30⅝	29⅞
Nat Steel	26⅞	27⅝
Norfolk West	27⅝	26¾
NW Bancorp	25	25
Norton Simon	16⅝	16⅝
Occidental Pet	26⅝	26⅝
Ogden	33	33⅝
Olin Corp	17⅝	17
Owens-Illinois	20⅝	20⅝
Pacific Gas Elec	23	23
Pan Am	5⅝	5½
Penney J. C.	27⅞	27⅝
Pennzoil	39½	38⅝
Pepsico	24⅞	25½
Pfizer	40	40⅞
Phelps Dodge	29⅞	29⅝
Philip Morris	35⅝	35⅞
Phillips Petrol	45⅝	49⅝
Polaroid	28⅝	27⅞
PPG Ind	29	28⅝
Proctor Gamble	74	74
Pub Ser El & Gas	19⅝	19⅝

	Dec 20	Dec 19
Pullman	40	39⅝
Rapid American	20⅞	20⅝
Raytheon	66⅝	66
RCA Corp	22⅝	21⅝
Republic Steel	24⅝	24
Reynolds Ind	33⅞	34⅝
Reynolds Metal	30⅝	30⅞
Rockwell Int	46	46⅞
Royal Dutch	77½	77⅝
Safeways	33⅞	34
St Regis Paper	29⅞	30⅝
Santa Fe Ind	53	55⅝
SCM	23⅞	23⅝
Schlumberger	92⅞	93⅝
Scott Paper	19⅝	18⅝
Seaboard Coast	31	29⅞
Seagram	41⅝	41
Sears Roebuck	18⅞	19
Shell Oil	56	56⅞
Shell Trans	29⅝	29⅝
Signal Co	39⅞	40⅝
Singer	8¼	8
Sony	7⅛	7⅞
Sth Cal Edison	25	25⅝
Southern Pacific	34	34⅝
Southern Rly	53⅞	52⅝
Sperry Rand	50	50⅝
Std Brands	26⅝	27
Std Oil Califola	56⅝	59⅞
Std Oil Indiana	79⅝	79⅝
Std Oil Ohio	81	82⅞
Sterling Drug	21	20⅞
Stevens J. P.	15½	15⅝
Sunbeam Corp	18⅝	17⅝
Sun Comp	70⅝	70⅝
Teledyne	140⅝	141
Tenneco	30⅞	30⅝
Texaco	28⅝	29⅞
Texas East Corp	68⅝	67⅞
Texas Inst	89⅝	88⅝
Texas Utilities	18⅝	18⅞
Textron	28⅝	25⅝
TWA	17⅝	17⅝
Travelers Corp	38⅝	38⅝
TRW Inc	38⅝	38⅝
UAL Inc	23	23⅝
Union Carbide	41⅞	42⅞
Union Oil Calif	45⅝	46⅝
Un Pacific Corp	76⅝	76⅝
Uniroyal	4⅝	4
United Brands	11⅞	11⅝
US Industries	9	9⅝
US Steel	17⅝	17⅞
Utd Technol	43⅝	43⅞
Wachovia	18⅝	18⅞
Warner Lambert	19⅝	19⅝
Wells Fargo	28⅝	28⅝
West'n Bancorp	31⅝	31⅝
Westinghse Elec	19⅞	19⅝
Weyerhauser	31⅞	33⅞
Whirlpool	18⅝	18⅝
White Motor	5⅝	5⅝
Woolworth	25⅞	25⅞
Xerox Corp	62⅝	62⅞
Zenith	9⅝	9⅝

Canadian Prices

	Dec 20	Dec 19
Abitibi	19½	19⅝
Alcan Alumin	53⅞	52⅞
Algoma Steel	29⅝	29⅞
Bell Telephone	21	20⅞
Cominco	46½	45⅝
Cons Bathurst	14⅝	14⅝
Falconbridge	84½	84½
Gulf Oil	119	118½
Hawker Sid Can	16⅝	16½
Hudson Bay Mn	24	23⅝
Hudson Bay Oil	101⅝	102½
Imasco	42⅝	42⅝
Imperial Oil	44⅝	43⅝
Int Pipe	18½	16⅝
Mass.-Fergsn	12⅝	12⅝
Royal Trust	14	14
Seagram	48½	47⅝
Steel Co	25⅝	25½
Talcorp	14	10⅝
Thomson N 'A'	13½	13⅝
Walker Hiram	54⅝	58⅝
WCT	14⅝	14⅝

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 2.1972 (2.2007); three months, 2.1861 (2.1904); Canadian dollar 1.1755 (1.1745).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 420.71. The futures index was 406.91.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 843.34 (838.91); transportation, 256.06 (255.60); utilities, 108.56 (109.17); 65 stocks, 301.59 (300.07).

New York Stock Exchange index, 62.08 (62.00); industrials, 70.57 (70.28); transportation, 51.20 (50.85); utilities, 37.11 (37.61); financial, 65.10 (62.89).

Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £1,006-1,008 a metric ton; three months, £1,005-1,006. Sales, 4,500. Cash cathodes, £974-76; three months, £988-89. Sales, 500 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £1,014-15; three months, £1,010-11. Settlement, £1,015. Sales, 7,000 tons. Cash cathodes, £976-78; three months, £990-91. Settlement, £979. Sales, 600 tons. **TIN** was irregular.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £7,510-30 a metric ton; three months, £7,540-50. Sales, 350 tons. High grade, cash, £7,510-30; three months, £7,550-60. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £7,620-30; three months, £7,530-40. Settlement, £7,630. Sales, 550 tons. High grade, cash, £7,620-30; three months, £7,540-50. Settlement, £7,650. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, SM2,151 a picul. **LEAD** was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £528-30 per metric ton; three months, £513-14. Sales, 1,850 tons. Morning.—Cash, £540-41; three months, £525.50-26.00. Settlement, £541. Sales, 2,950 tons. **ZINC** was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £342.50-43.50 a metric ton; three months, £351-51.50. Sales, 5,600 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £355-56; three months, £363.50-64.00. Settlement, £356. Sales, 1,400 tonnes. **PLATINUM** was at £290.50 ($618) a troy ounce. **SILVER** was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 1067.45p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 2350); three months, 1108.45p (2420.50c); six months, 1153.45p (2485.40c); one year, 1190.45p (2572.60c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 1041-45p; three months, 1080-85p. Sales, 60 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 1045-50p; three months, 1089-90p. Settlement, 1050p. Sales, 40 lots. **ALUMINIUM** was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, 868-72 per metric ton; three months, 838.50-39.50. Sales, 2,300 tons. Morning.—Cash, £870-75; three months, £840-41. Settlement, £875. Sales, 750 tons. **NICKEL** was quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,850-70 per metric ton; three months, £2,930-40. Sales, 36 tons. Morning.—Cash, £2,860-70; three months, £2,940-45. Settlement, £2,870. Sales, 324 tons.

RUBBER barely steady (pence per kilo): Jan, 64.20-64.40; Feb, 65.40-66.00; Jan-March, 66-66.05; April-June, 69.45-69.50; July-Sept, 71.80-71.90; Oct-Dec, 71.05-71.10; Jan-March, 76.45-76.50; April-June, 78.80-78.90; July-Sept, 81.15-81.20. Sales, 555 at five tonnes; 434 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet. Spot, 64-65.50. Cifs, Jan, expired. Feb, 67.50-68.00; March, 68.50-69.00.

COFFEE: ROBUSTAS (£ per metric ton): Jan 1,790-91; March, 1,673-74; May, 1,656-57; July, 1,622-25; Sept, 1,615-17; Nov, 1,595-1,605; Jan 1,595-1,600. Sales: 4,526 lots including 55 options.

COCOA was barely steady (£ per metric ton): Dec, 1,472-80; March, 1,509-10; May, 1,506-08; July, 1,508-10; Sept, 1,518-22; Dec, 1,553-45; March, 1,545-65. Sales: 3,434 lots including 4 options. ICCO prices: daily (Dec 19), 147.27c; indicator prices (Dec 20): 15-day average, 144.15c; 22-day average, 143.03c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was unchanged at £178; the "whites" price was £2 lower at £190. Futures (£ per tonne): Old Contract (quiet): March, 183.50-83.50; May, 184.50-84.60; Aug, 185.90-84.00; Oct, 185.45-85.75. Sales: 5,653 lots. New contract (quiet): May 187.80-84.20; Aug, 183.25-83.75; Oct, 182.75-83.25; Jan, 182-83; March, 182.50-83.00; May, 182.50-83.25. Sales: 343 lots. ISA prices (Dec 19): daily 14.89c; 15-day average, 14.70c.

White sugar was: Feb, 197-98; April, 192.25-92.50; July, 193-96; Sept, 194-98; Nov, 195-200; Feb, 196-201; April, 197-202. Sales: 65 lots.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady (£ per tonne): Dec, unquoted; Feb, 124-24.20; April, 123.10-23.20; June, 121.50-21.50; Aug, 123-23.50; Oct, 120.50-20.50; Dec, 121.90-23.00. Sales, 18 lots.

WOOL.—Greasy futures (pence per kilo): Australian (quiet): Dec, 218-58; March, May, July, Oct, Dec, March and May all 232-42. Sales nil. New Zealand crossbreds (quiet): Dec, 190-205; March, May, July, Oct, Dec, March and May all 188-95. Sales, nil.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Jan, £105.50; Feb, £108; March, £109.50 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter, 13½ per cent: Jan, £105.20; Feb, £106.50; March, £107.50 trans-shipment east coast. EEC unquoted. **MAIZE.**—US: Jan, £120 east coast. French, Jan, £116.50 east coast. South African white unquoted. South African yellow: Jan, £82.

BARLEY: English feed fob, Jan, £99; Jan-March, £101; April-June, £105.50 east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). **EEC** origin.—**BARLEY** was steady: Jan, £98.50; March, £97.85; May, £101.95; Sept, £95; Nov, £98.65. Sales, 311 lots. **WHEAT** was steady: Jan, £96.35; March, £100.85; May, £105.10; Sept, £98.25; Nov, £101.85. Sales, 128 lots.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	—	£94.80	£90.90
S West	—	£95.00	£90.40
W Midlands	—	£94.80	£92.50
N West	—	£95.30	£92.00

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Dec 20.—GB cattle, 80.90p per kg lw (−0.80). UK sheep, 153.3p per kg est d c w (+5.4). GB pigs, 70.3p per kg lw (−0.5). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 65.4 per cent, average price, 81.20p (−0.79). Sheep numbers down 33.5 per cent, average price, 152.2p (+7.6). Pig numbers down 72.4 per cent, average price, 70.5p (−0.5). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 35.6 per cent, average price, 80.49p (+0.19). Sheep numbers down 11.4 per cent, average price, 139.6p (+2.4).

COLOMBO TEA.—There was good general demand at the weekly auction for the 4,879 lots totalling 4.50 million kilos with westerns on offer similar to last week, while UVAS continued plain. Except for a few useful liquoring western brokens which advanced on last prices, other western bops recorded substantial price declines. At the commencement of the sale, more competition was in evidence for secondary western bops, but this trend was not maintained during the latter catalogues and prices were irregularly lower by the close. Select western bopfs lost about 5.00 rupees per kilo, while others declined to a lesser extent. Colourful well-made bopfs were easier by rupees 1.00 to 1.50 rupees per kilo. Poor leaf plain liquoring descriptions opened lower, but there was more competition in the latter catalogues and prices were fully firm to dearer. Neat leaf medium bopfs appreciated up to 1.50 rupees per kilo, while other bopfs of below best category were fully firm to dearer.

The few available invoices of bright bops as well as some brokens with a good leaf standard gained slightly on last, while other descriptions were firm to dearer. Clean leaf UVA bops declined up to 2.00 rupees per kilo, while below best bopfs were firm to slightly dearer. Stylish fbops. Bopl's were easier up to 1.50 rupees per kilo. Select neat leaf bops declined up to about 4.00 rupees per kilo but there was better demand seen for secondary type bops and these gained rupees 1.00 1.50 per kilo. Wiry op's eased up to 3.00 rupees per kilo. Opas were fully firm to dearer. Pekoes, especially the well-made shotty types, gained substantially. Below best secondary descriptions enjoyed a better price level with most descriptions selling above last rates. Low grown bopfs appreciated 50 cents to 1.00 rupee per kilo. Primary D1s from the high and medium elevations were fully firm to slightly dearer.

Foreign exchange report

The pound lost a little ground in extremely slow and featureless currency trading yesterday. Sterling's fall in terms of the dollar was finally 55 points at 2.1990, while the effective exchange rate index dipped 0.2 to 69.3 after 69.5 at midday and 69.7 at the opening.

But dealers again reported only a negligible amount of business with most operators having long since squared their books ahead of the year end. The market seemed already resigned to there being no agreement at the oil pricing meeting of Opec ministers in Caracas. The United Kingdom supply figures were very much as expected and made no impact whatsoever.

German marks fell 3-4 pfennig from 1.7300 to 1.7375 against the dollar, but there was a slight hardening of the Swiss franc, from 1.6035 to 1.6025. The French franc eased from 4.0515 to 4.0525. The Japanese yen strengthened to 236.60.

Sterling Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) December 20	Market rates (close) December 20		1 month	3 months
New York	$2.1960-2.2040	$2.1985-2.1995	New York	[illegible]	[illegible]
Montreal	[illegible]	[illegible]	Montreal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	[illegible]	[illegible]	Amsterdam	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	[illegible]	[illegible]	Brussels	[illegible]	[illegible]
Copenhagen	[illegible]	[illegible]	Copenhagen	[illegible]	[illegible]
Frankfurt	[illegible]	[illegible]	Frankfurt	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	[illegible]	[illegible]	Lisbon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	[illegible]	[illegible]	Madrid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milan	[illegible]	[illegible]	Milan	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oslo	[illegible]	[illegible]	Oslo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]	Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	[illegible]	[illegible]	Tokyo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]	Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971, was down 0.2 at 69.3.

Sterling: Other Markets

Australia	[illegible]
Bahrain	[illegible]
Finland	[illegible]
Greece	[illegible]
Hongkong	[illegible]
Iran	not available
Ireland	[illegible]
Kuwait	[illegible]
Malaysia	[illegible]
Mexico	[illegible]
New Zealand	[illegible]
Saudi Arabia	[illegible]
Singapore	[illegible]
South Africa	[illegible]

Dollar Spot Rates

*Ireland	[illegible]
*Canada	[illegible]
Netherlands	[illegible]
Belgium	[illegible]
Denmark	[illegible]
West Germany	[illegible]
Portugal	[illegible]
Spain	[illegible]
Italy	[illegible]
Norway	[illegible]
France	[illegible]
Sweden	[illegible]
Japan	[illegible]
Austria	[illegible]
Switzerland	[illegible]

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
[illegible]

EMS European Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	Currency amounts against ECU	% change from central rates	% change adjusted*	Divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.53
Danish krone	7.72336	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.135
French franc	5.84700	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dutch guilder	2.74362	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.512
Irish punt	0.669201	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.663
Italian lira	1157.79	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.03

Changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency. *Adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits. Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Gold

Gold fixed: am $477.25 (an ounce); pm [illegible]; close, [illegible].
Krugerrand (per coin): [illegible].
Sovereigns (new): $122.75-124.75 ([illegible]).

Euro-$ Deposits

[illegible]

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone: 01-638 8651

The Over-the-Counter Market

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
99	39	Airsprung Group	75	—	6.7	8.9	*4.4
50	35	Armitage & Rhodes	38	—	3.8	10.0	*2.5
223	143	Bardon Hill	219xd	—	13.8	6.3	*6.4
101	50	Deborah Ord	92	—	5.0	5.4	10.1
353	140	Deborah 17½% CULS	353	—	17.5	5.0	—
88	88	Frank Horsell	88	—	12.9	8.9	5.5
147	100	Frederick Parker	107	—	12.8	12.0	*8.3
158	110	George Blair	110	—	16.5	15.0	*—
61	45	Jackson Group	59	—	5.2	8.8	*3.5
153	97	James Burrough	116	—	7.2	6.2	10.2
342	242	Robert Jenkins	244	—	31.3	12.8	*4.8
232	150	Torday Limited	223	—	14.3	6.4	*5.8
34	14	Twinlock Ord	17	—	0.8	4.9	*3.2
82	69	Twinlock 12% ULS	76	—	12.0	15.8	—
56	23	Unilock Holdings	56	—	2.6	4.6	11.9
84	42	Walter Alexander	83	—	4.4	5.3	5.5
190	136	W. S. Yeates	184	—	11.5	6.3	7.1
189	185	W. S. Yeates New	185	—	—	—	—

*Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1978/79 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers,			
		72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941			
42.1	31.3	Abbey Capital	37.9	38.8	3.87
57.4	43.5	Abbey General	44.7	47.9	5.06
40.2	33.3	Do Income	39.8	42.7	8.66
42.4	33.7	Do Invest	32.9	35.6	4.21
77.1	61.5	Equitas Prog	64.8	69.8	6.03
		Albon Trust Managers Ltd.			
		[illegible]			
		Allied Hambro Group,			
		Hambro Hse, Hutton, Essex. 01-588 2851			
		Allied Capital	70.2	75.1	5.75
		Do 1st	69.5	74.4	6.45
		Brit Inds			
		Growth & Inc			
		Elec & Ind Dev			
		Met Min & Cmdty			
		High Income			
		Equity Income			
		International			
		High Yield Fnd			
		Hambro Fnd			
		Do Recovery			
		Do Smaller			
		Do Accum			
		2nd Smaller			
		Secs of America			
		Pacific Fnd			
		Overseas Fnd			
		Exempt Smaller			
		Arbuthnot Securities Ltd,			
		37 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BY 01-236 5281			
		High Yield Fnd			
		Do Accum			
		Extra Income			
		High Income			
		Do Accum			
		Mary W'draw			
		Pref Fund			
		Capital Fund			
		Commodity			
		Giants Fund			
		Growth Fund			
		Barclays Unicorn Ltd.			
		252 Romford Road, London, E7 01-534 5544			
		Unicorn America			
		Aust Income			
		Do Accum			
		Unicorn Capital			
		Exempt			
		Extra Income			
		Financial			
		Unicorn '500'			
		General			
		Growth Accum			
		Income			
		Recovery			
		Trustee			
		Worldwide			
		Bridge Fund Managers Ltd.			
		Regis Hse, King William St, EC4 01-623 4951			
		Bridge Income			
		Do Cap Inc			
		Do Cap Accum			
		Do American			

Stock Exchange Prices

Little change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 10. Dealings End, Dec 27. § Contango Day, Dec 28. Settlement Day, Jan 7

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

1978-79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
136	92	AAH	119	..	10.0	8.4	7.8
46	35	AC Cars	42	..	0.7	1.8	7.5
186	55½	AGB Research	156	..	6.3n	4.1	17.1
74	22	Al Ind Prod	23	..	3.3	14.5	2.2
257	141	APV Hldgs	178	-3	9.4b	5.3	4.3
91	54¼	Aaronson Bros	62	..	5.3	8.7	5.0
133	86	Acrow	88	..	4.3	4.9	5.8
100¾	38	Do A	40	..	4.3	10.7	2.6
219	113	Adwest Group	190	..	9.6	5.1	7.5
222	87	Aeron'l & Gen	222	+7	4.0	1.8	21.1
55	30	Aero Needles	29 ●	..	3.5	12.0	9.9
58	21	Airfix Ind	22½	-½	3.2	23.2	3.6
12¾	[illegible]	Akzo	[illegible]	..	33.7	3.9	..
199	80	Alcan Alum UK	88	..	14.1	16.1	5.1
91	73½	Do 10½%	£74½	..	1050	14.1	..
62¾	35½	Allen W. G.	38	..	4.2	11.1	5.6
154	82	Allied Colloids	137	..	3.6	2.6	21.7
39	13	Allied Plant	31½	..	2.3	7.1	7.3
133	33½	Alpine Hldgs	110	..	5.3	4.8	10.8
375	268	Amal Metal	270	..	12.6	4.7	8.4
171	62	Amal Power	65	..	8.8	13.2	1.7
58	32	Amber Day	39	..	4.0	10.3	3.7
44	16	Amber Ind Hldgs	34	..	0.9	2.7	4.8
98	60	Anchor Chem	89	-2	7.0	7.9	9.7
74	38½	Anderson Strath	58½	+½	4.3	7.3	6.5
99	46	Anglia TV 'A'	66	+1	4.8	7.3	5.2
825	430	Anglo Amer Ind	788	..	50.7	6.4	7.0
114	60	Appleyard	66	..	8.9b	13.5	3.5
37½	27½	Aquascutum 'A'	29½	..	2.7	9.3	5.9
134	38	Arenson Hldgs	118	..	5.0	4.2	4.6
142	92	Arlington Mtr	114	..	12.9	11.3	4.3
83½	38½	Armitage Shanks	43	..	5.2	10.5	5.7
76	48	Armst Equip	48	-½	3.7	7.7	3.0
94	67	Ass Biscuit	80	..	6.1	7.6	7.3
301	185	Ass Book	216	..	8.6	4.0	8.7
91	52	Ass Brit Food	86	..	4.1b	4.8	6.1
138	98	Ass Comm 'A'	117	-1	11.4	9.8	6.9
120	60½	Ass Engineer	73	..	8.6	11.8	6.3
71	38	Ass Fisheries	51	..	0.4	0.7	..
108	44½	Ass Leisure	83 ●	..	6.5	7.8	6.9
273	132	Ass News	241	-2	9.2n	3.8	8.7
65	35	Ass Paper	36	..	5.0	13.8	2.3
87	28	Ass Tooling	52	..	4.9	9.4	13.8
122	38½	Astbury & Mdley	91	..	3.1	3.4	6.2
59	47	Atkins Bros	49 ●	..	6.3	12.9	3.5
37	7	Audiotronic	8	..	0.1	0.9	..
60½	29½	Ault & Wiborg	40	-1	3.1	7.8	4.2
103	46	Aurora Hldgs	57	..	8.5	14.9	3.7
152	67	Austin E.	139	..	6.7	4.8	8.0
110	52½	Automotive Pd	82	..	3.2	5.2	4.0
225	127	Avon Rubber	131 ●	-1	15.5	11.8	5.9
363	243	B.A T Ind	243	-2	24.3	10.0	3.9
338	225	Do Dfd	233	-2	..	..	..
53	36	BBA Grp	41	..	3.3	8.1	4.5
145	95	BET Dfd	115	+1	10.8	9.4	6.5
156	90	BICC	98	-1	11.5	11.7	6.4
27	15	BL Ltd	17	..	..	..	..

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P.E
86	47	Crown House	61½	..	6.8	11.0	6.8
108	57½	Cum'ns En Cv	£64½	..	375	5.8	..
190	110	Dale Electric	127	..	5.9	4.6	10.6
25½	10⅞	Dana	£12¼	..	71.7	5.9	5.2
182	108	Davies & New	111 ●	..	12.2	11.0	5.4
134	60	Davis G.	121	..	7.9b	6.5	4.4
154	104	Davy Corp	112	-3	9.6	8.5	4.9
825	400	De Beers Ind	745	..	48.5	6.5	14.6
45	25	Deanson Hldgs	39	..	4.0	10.3	4.7
110	59	Debenhams	64	..	9.1	14.2	5.2
586	325	De La Rue	540	..	26.1	4.8	19.8
515	336	Decca	325	..	..	..	..
495	338	Do A	292	..	..	..	..
85½	46½	Delta Metal	56½	-½	8.0	14.2	4.2
133	69	Denbyware	116	..	9.2	7.9	14.7
200	147	De Vere Hotels	190	-2	8.5	4.5	18.0
104	32½	Dewhirst I. J.	67	..	2.3b	3.4	8.2
29	16	Dewhurst Dent	20	..	0.9	4.3	15.3
140	81	DRG	90	-1	11.4	12.7	6.5
353	129	Diploma Inv	336	-2	11.4	3.2	14.1
187	64	Dixon D.	112	-1	12.8	11.4	2.8
131¼	81¼	Dixons Photo	89	+1	4.1	4.6	4.6
66	38	Dixor	35	..	0.5	1.3	7.5
122	67¼	Dobson Park	91½	..	6.0	7.1	7.3
97	63	Dom Hldgs	96	..	7.7	8.0	10.8
89	60½	Dorada Hldgs	64	..	7.0	11.0	3.7
105	64	Douglas R. M.	84	..	8.0	9.3	2.9
45	21½	Dow'd & Mills	36	..	2.1	5.9	7.7
189	98	Downing G. H.	98	..	11.1	11.3	3.7
173	78	Dowty Grp	150	-2	5.4	3.6	8.6
49	19	Drake & Scull	34½	..	3.2	9.3	3.4
39	18½	Dreamland Elec	34	+1	3.1b	5.8	9.6
52	37½	Dufay	39	..	4.2	10.8	8.2
91	44	Dunlop Hldgs	58	-1	8.0	15.2	11.6
30	12½	Duple Int	22½ ●	..	2.1	9.2	3.7
80½	52½	Duport	53	..	7.5	14.1	4.8
80	42	Durapipe Int	44	..	3.5	8.0	8.2
59	17	Dykes J. Hldgs	17 ●	..	0.1	0.8	..
143	74	ERF Hldgs	87	+6	4.9	5.0	2.2
82	44	E Lancs Paper	66	..	5.5	8.3	5.2
109	73	Eastern Prod	81	..	6.4	7.9	7.2
265	111	Edbro	111	-6	12.9	11.6	4.7
82	39	Eleco Hldgs	61¼	..	4.3	7.0	5.3
71	37	EIS	52	..	4.7	9.0	7.2
508	159	Electrocomps	441	-9	12.1	2.8	16.4
29	18	Electronic Mach	22	..	..	..	12.6
154	74	Electr'nic Rent	99	-1	5.9	5.9	10.2
256½	87	Elliott B	298 ●	+2	17.5	8.4	4.7
117	70	Ellis & Everard	107	..	8.2	7.7	9.6
32¾	17	Ellis & Gold	31¼	..	3.1	14.2	3.8
114	70	Elson & Robbins	104	..	7.1b	6.9	3.1
21¾	14	Elswick Hopper	15½ ●	..	1.6	9.9	5.2
225	115	Empire Stores	152	+2	6.9	4.5	12.0
31½	16½	Energy Serv	25½	..	0.8	3.1	11.5
37	17	English & O'seas	23	+1	1.3	5.4	9.6
101	69	Eng China Clay	78½	..	5.9	7.5	7.4
123	68	Erith & Co	107	..	9.4	8.8	9.3
164	85	Esperanza	95	-1	9.1	9.6	4.7
75	53	Eucalyptus Pulp	75	..	6.1	8.1	5.4
183	92½	Euro Ferries	98½	-½	8.4b	8.5	4.3
371	140	Eurotherm Int	290	..	5.0	1.8	19.9

MISCELLANEOUS

1978/79 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	Algoma Cen Rly	[illegible]	[illegible]	26.0	3.2	12.2
81	41	Calcutta Elec	43	..	14.0	32.5	..
52½	41	[illegible] Wtr 4.9%	£42	..	490	12.0	..
36¾	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	31 ●	..	350	11.3	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	Gt Nthn Tele	570	..	342	14.2	3.1
[illegible]	310	Imp Cont Gas	613	-2	25.7	4.2	20.6
213	66	Milford Docks	192	..	8.0b	4.4	12.7
111¼	81¼	Nesco Inv	96	..	9.0	10.2	..
35½	29	Sunderland Wtr	£32	..	350	11.3	..

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the Index of 150 industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated to cover the period of non-publication.

Motoring

More stringent MOT tests from January

January 1, apart from ushering in the 1980s, will see the introduction of important new equipment at MOT testing stations. The consequences for the motorist will be twofold: a big reduction, if only temporary, in the number of stations and a more stringent application of the test criteria.

Since in 1975 the Labour Government announced a programme to improve the effectiveness of the test, it has been foreseen that a number of stations would choose to leave the scheme rather than install the expensive machinery required.

With only 10 days until the New Year deadline, the picture is still not entirely clear. Of the 16,000 test stations, about 2,500 are expected to lose their authorization and by no means all those wishing to be included in the new scheme have been approved.

According to the Department of Transport, approval has been given to 9,000 stations and another 2,000 approvals should be confirmed by January 1. That makes 11,000 stations, which is well short of the existing total.

The department adds, however, that a further 4,388 stations have indicated their willingness to join the scheme and should be confirmed within six months. There are a few hundred in addition to those also likely to join in due course. So if all goes to plan there should be a return to almost the present complement.

But for some months there will be many fewer stations available and motorists whose tests are due early in the New Year should first check that their local centre will be operating and, secondly, should book the car in as soon as possible. Car owners should also be warned that as a result of the new equipment the test will be tougher.

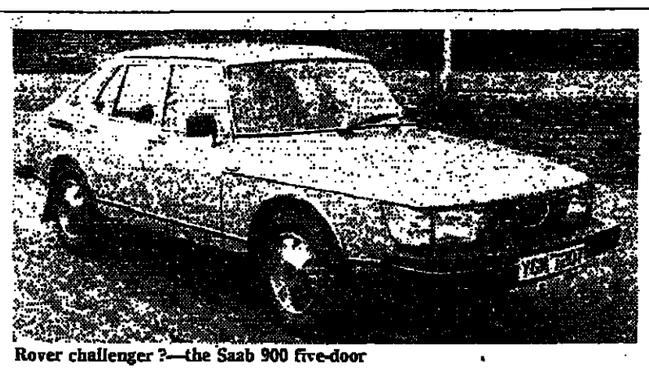
The installation of roller brake testers, for instance, will provide a more objective and consistent application of brake-testing criteria than the old method of taking the car on the road and seeing how it behaves. Apart from the efficiency of the brakes, the roller tester will show any imbalance between wheels on the same axle.

"Cars will have to be in better condition to pass on the new equipment", Mr Ken Prendergast, director of customer service for Ford, says. "The chance for human error has almost been eliminated and although pass standards have not changed, the use of roller brake testers will highlight any vehicle that is not up to the mark."

The second piece of new equipment is an optical headlamp-beam tester, capable of measuring both the intensity and alignment of dip and main beam lights. As one who is consistently dazzled by headlights that are wrongly aligned, I hope this machine will quickly identify the culprits.

The failure rate on the MOT test is more than a third and it will be interesting to look at the figures again in a year to see the impact of the brake and headlamp testers. Certainly a more rigorous and consistent application of the test should find out those motorists who have delighted in driving their old bangers from station to station in the hope of discovering one more lenient than the rest.

The case for the MOT test is underlined by two recent Ford surveys. The first, covering 72,500 cars of various makes and ages, showed that one in five had inefficient footbrakes and almost as many required attention to broke hoses and pipes. The other survey, of more than 30,000 cars, found 30 per cent with defects to lights and horns.



Rover challenger ?—the Saab 900 five-door

Road test: Saab 900

It does not take a keen eye to spot the similarity in appearance between the Saab 900 range introduced to Britain in February and the much older 99; and a glance at the mechanical specification also reveals much in common, from the 1985cc engine downwards. But there is more to the 900 than a mere stretching exercise.

It gives Saab a more plausible competitor in the Rover-Audi-Volvo "executive" market and for a company that cannot afford to change models very often it is a useful interim measure pending the arrival of a new car.

The size is what first distinguishes the 900, being a significant 8in longer than the 99 which has looked a little too small to justify the status, and price, that Saab has asked for it.

The 900 looks a more substantial vehicle, particularly in the five-door version (there is also a three-door). The car has been restyled from the windscreen forwards. The screen itself is deeper and the bonnet longer and lower, capped with huge black bumpers which have been fitted with an eye to the American market.

The extra length has meant a longer wheelbase and there have been adjustments to the suspension, front and back, to give better stability. Inside, the car has a new fascia, designed to absorb impacts and allowing for the installation of air bags, should they ever become compulsory (another nod across the Atlantic).

A new—and most effective—heating and ventilation system includes a filter which is said to make life easier for hay fever sufferers. The already generous legroom has been slightly extended, both for driver and rear-seat passengers.

Having tested two versions of the 900, I feel it to be a thoroughly worth while exercise. The car has the traditional Saab sturdiness, evident from the reassuring chunk as you shut the doors. By the same token, however, the tailgate, which is large as well as heavy, does take some lifting. Throughout there is the feeling of robust quality. It may not be the prettiest or sleekest of vehicles, but it has been built to last.

It is a refined car. The 1985cc engine is available in various forms—single carburettor, twin carb, fuel injected and turbo—and shows little sign of strain in having to pull a hefty vehicle. Smooth, quiet progress is possible well in excess of the 70 mph motorway limit and with the raked bonnet helping to cut wind noise, the 900 is a most agreeable car for long-distance cruising.

Performance varies, naturally, according to the engine's state of tune but both versions I have tried, twin carb and fuel injection, were adequate. Fuel consumption has suffered a little compared with the 99, as might be expected with the extra weight. On the three-door twin carb I averaged 21.26 mpg.

Power steering is not a standard item on all 900 models but remembering the traditional heaviness of Saab steering, it is an option to be recommended. The manual and automatic gearboxes are both excellent and there are superb all-disc brakes, giving immediate and progessive response to the gentlest touch. The car corners with the minimum of body roll and the road-holding gives every confidence.

The ride is good on smooth roads but somewhat juddery on rough ones. Seats are well shaped (and the driver's seat is heated), there plenty of head and legroom a despite the intrusion of the sp wheel, a large boot.

The fascia instruments are model of clarity and the minor c trols fall neatly to hand. In sh the Saab 900 is a well thought and impressively executed vehi Prices start at £6,350 for the thr door single carb, rising to £10. for the five-door turbo.

Thirsty roof racks

It may be common knowle that because of the extra drag, wind resistance, luggage carried a roof rack increases a car's f consumption. But tests caried by BP Oil under the scrutiny the Automobile Association nevertheless revealing.

A Talbot Sunbeam car was f driven, at 60 mph, with no roof r and returned 39.9 miles to gallon. The drive was then repea with an empty roof rack and sumption increased to 35.8. A th run, with the rack containing th cases and a holdall weighing 12 sent consumption up to 30.2 n

But given that some luggage to be carried on the roof, what the motorist do to offset penalty? One answer, according BP, is to add a piece of hardbo to the front of the rack so that air is deflected over the cases. effect of doing this was to raise 30.2 mpg to a more respectable

Peter Waym

Law Report December 20 1979 — Court of Appeal

Legalizing uncompleted development work

Ashby and Another v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice Eveleigh

[Judgments delivered Dec 11]

The Court of Appeal considered the question whether section 209 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971, included a power for the Secretary of State for the Environment to make a completely retrospective order when authorizing a diversion order in respect of a new route for a footpath.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Mr Kenneth Ashby and Mr Andrew Dalby, suing on their own behalf and on behalf of the Ramblers Association, from the dismissal by Sir Douglas Frank, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, of their application to quash an order of the Secretary of State confirming the Kirklees (Broad Lane Estate, Upperthong) Public Path Diversion Order, 1976, made by the Kirklees Metropolitan District Council under section 210 of the Act.

Section 209 provides: "(1) The Secretary of State may by order authorize the stopping up or diversion of any highway if he is satisfied that it is necessary to do so in order to enable development to be carried out in accordance with planning permission granted under Part III of this Act, . . ."

Section 210 provides: "(1) . . . a competent authority may by order authorize the stopping up or diversion of any footpath . . . if they are satisfied as mentioned in section 209(1) . . ."

Mr Barry Payton for the appellants; Mr Jeremy Sullivan for the minister. The local authority did not appear.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH said that in 1962 outline planning permission was granted for a housing development on land through which ran a public foot-path. Approval of the details of residential development for 40 houses was given in September, 1975, to a builder. The proposed development involved obstruction of the footpath at several points. The advisory panel on footpaths of the local authority accepted a proposed route for the diversion. In January, 1976, however, the builder laid out an alternative footpath and started work on a house which obstructed the footpath before the authority had published a diversion order and before any application to the minister. He was fined £80.

In March, 1976, the authority made a diversion order in respect of a new route. After a public meeting had rejected it, the authority devised another new route which became the subject of the 1976 order. The minister confirmed the order, and his decision was the subject of the appeal.

The local authority and the minister had to be satisfied of the matters set out in section 209. For the appellants emphasis had been placed on the words "to be carried out". It was said that the words related to the future and could not apply where development had begun or had been completed. Nor was there a power to ratify past activities which would encourage developers to "jump the gun."

Part X of the Act containing the relevant sections and the provisions of Schedule 20 and section 215 for objectors to be heard and inquiries to be held indicated that the purpose was to prevent premature unlawful development where a highway would be obstructed.

The minister claimed that section 209 gave power to him to act although the development had been completed or, alternatively, that some development in accordance with planning permission remained to be done. His Lordship considered the present state of the development and concluded that some work remained to be done in the houses. He quoted from the inspector's report to the effect that so long as people had a right to walk through the plots, the builder could not sell the houses and that it would be unfair to the builder to require him to pull down one of the houses.

Part X of the 1971 Act contained provisions for stopping up and diverting highways and for safeguarding the public interest before a final order was made. The considerations under that Act were not precisely the same as those under the Highways Act. The effect of Part X of the 1971 Act was to provide a comprehensive scheme for development of land and consequential interference with highways under the minister's supervision. It was tidy and logical and ensured a consistent approach.

By section 209 the minister was empowered to "authorize the stopping up or diversion of any highway". Stopping up or diverting might refer to the past or the future. The words could be as applicable to a highway already diverted as to one which it was intended to divert.

His Lordship rejected the argument that "authorize" was inappropriate to something already done. It was defined in the *Shorter Oxford Dictionary* as "to set up or acknowledge as authoritative; to give legal force to; to sanction; to countenance". His Lordship read section 209 as saying that the minister might acknowledge as authoritative or give legal force to or sanction the stopping up and, consequently, he might deal with a highway that had been stopped up or one that would be stopped up.

The minister had to be satisfied that it was necessary to authorize the stopping up or diversion. The words "to be carried out" were not equivalent to "begun"; they contemplated both a beginning and a completion. Section 209 was an enabling section, concerned to remove what otherwise would be a legal (not a physical) obstacle to development. There was nothing in the words to prevent the minister from authorizing an already existing obstruction caused by development already begun. Developers who acted unlawfully would have to be dealt with by the penal provisions applicable to their conduct.

His Lordship considered section 32 in relation to section 209 and said that it was permissible to read section 209 as saying that the minister might authorize the stopping up of any highway if he was satisfied that it was necessary to do so in order to enable development which had been carried out on the ground to be legalized.

It was contended that the application should be dealt with under section 111 of the Highways Act. No worthwhile advantage was to be obtained in that way. It was better for the minister who might have to consider the merits of the development permission to consider at the same time the highway question. If the development was of a kind which involved the obstruction of a highway, then the minister could give his authority so that the development could be carried out legally. He was not concerned to enquire how far, if at all, the work had been done.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE GOFF said that he was unable to accept Lord Justice Eveleigh's conclusion that section 209 gave the minister power to make a completely retrospective order, although on a more restricted construction of the section he agreed that the appeal should be dismissed. His conclusion was not possible because of the words of futurity "to be carried out" in the section, in sharp contrast to "constructed or carried out . . . before the date of the application" in section 32.

In his Lordship's view, if the work had been finished sections 209 and 210 did not apply whether or not planning permission had been obtained before it was done or started, and if it had not been finished the permission granted would have to be not only under section 32 to retain the work so far done but also to authorize the rest, which would bring in sections 209 and 210. Neither the council nor the minister could be satisfied that an order was necessary "in order to enable development to be carried out" without ascertaining the factual situation in order to see whether there was in fact any part of the relevant permitted development left to be carried out or whether it had all been completed.

It could be said that, if development on the highway had not been completed, what remained to be done did show that it was necessary to make an order to enable the development to be carried out, none the less so because the order would validate the unlawful erection. That was so on the simple ground that what remained to be done could not be carried out so long as what had already been done remained unlawful and liable to be removed, at all events where the new could not stand alone, eg building an upper storey. If necessary his Lordship would say that any further building on the highway, even although it had been physically stopped up by what had been done already, was itself a further obstruction which could not be carried out without an order.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON said that he was attracted by Lord Justice Eveleigh's construction of section 209, but he agreed with Lord Justice Goff that it did violence to the language of the section and he could not accept it.

There was no indication in either Act that what appeared to be a requirement that a minister or authority should be satisfied on the facts that something could not be done in the future without a diversion order was intended to be a requirement that they should be satisfied on paper that something in the past unlawfully needed to be legalized by a diversion order.

He did, however, agree on the facts that the development was still being carried out which necessitated the authorization of a diversion order at the time when the diversion order was authorized and confirmed. Development consisting of building operations was a process with a beginning and an end. That fact might produce the deplorable result that the earlier the developer "jumped the gun" the better his chance of completing the development before the minister or authority could consider whether it was necessary to authorize a diversion order.

Solicitors: Franks, Charlesly & Co for Pearlman, Grazin & Co, Leeds; Treasury Solicitor.

Launderette effluent not domestic sewage

Thames Water Authority v Blue and White Launderettes Ltd

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Brandon

The effluent discharged from washing-machines on launderette premises is trade effluent within the meaning of section 14 of the Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1937, and it is not entitled to exemption from charges levied by water authorities as being domestic sewage.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the Thames Water Authority from the dismissal by Judge Dow at Clerkenwell County Court of their claim for £1,355, being the charges in respect of the discharge of effluent from nine launderette premises.

Section 14 of the Act provides: "(1) . . . 'trade effluent' means any liquid, either with or without particles of matter in suspension therein, which is wholly or in part produced in the course of any trade or industry carried on at trade premises and, in relation to any trade premises, means any such liquid as aforesaid which is so produced in the course of any trade or industry carried on at those premises, but does not include domestic sewage; 'trade premises' means any premises used or intended to be used for carrying on any trade or industry."

Mr David Widdicombe, QC, and Mr John Laws for the water authority; Mr J. P. Gorman, QC and Mr John Foy for the launderette company.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH said that the appeal was solely concerned with whether the effluent was trade effluent within the meaning of section 14 of the 1937 Act. It was admitted that the premises were trade premises. The section gave two definitions of "trade effluent". The first was to apply generally, the second only when the matter had to be considered in relation to trade premises. The words "but does not include domestic sewage" applied only to the second meaning. The relevant part of the definition might be stated as saying that in relation to trade premises effluent did not include domestic sewage.

Counsel for the launderette company had submitted that the water discharged from a washing-machine in a house must be domestic sewage, and the liquid in the present case was identical. Such an approach would lead, in his Lordship's opinion, to the conclusion that almost anything which could be classified as domestic sewage when emanating from a house must be domestic sewage when coming from a factory in spite of it being used only in the process of manufacture carried on in the factory. It had been argued that that was not a necessary conclusion because the process of washing clothes was done in a similar machine in the home. That, however, did not go far enough. One must also ask the purpose for which the activity was carried on.

On trade premises one would expect there to be a source of effluent that was not related to the trading or industrial processes carried on there. The exclusion of domestic sewage was intended to relate to the domestic activities of those who worked there as opposed to the effects of the business activities. From the words of section 14 itself the water discharged from the washing-machines in a launderette was trade effluent within the meaning of the section. Support for that view was to be gained from sections 1 and 4 of the Act.

The court had been referred to a number of authorities but there was nothing in any of the decided cases to govern the interpretation of the section. For the reasons given the washing liquid in the present case was not domestic sewage, and the appeal should be allowed.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON, concurring, said that there was no definition of domestic sewage in the 1937 Act, but its meaning could be derived from proviso (a)(i) to section 34 of the Public Health Act, 1936. That section conferred on the owner or occupier a right to have private drains made to communicate with the authority's public sewers, subject to a proviso that "nothing in this section shall entitle any person—(a) to discharge directly or indirectly into a public sewer—(i) any liquid from a factory, other than domestic sewage or surface or storm water, or any liquid from a manufacturing process . . .". Domestic sewage was not defined in the 1936 Act, but in its context his Lordship had no doubt that it meant liquid from water closets and baths, lavatories and sanitary conveniences, used by workpeople in a factory.

His Lordship did not feel bound by any authorities to hold that all the soapy water discharged from a launderette was necessarily domestic, though the operations of a launderette were nearer to those of a householder than those of a laundry. Everything directly produced in the course of the trade or business of a launderette, whether for the purpose of washing or laundering clothing or for the trade purpose, preferred by Mr Gorman, of hiring out washing-machines and providing soap and water softener, was trade effluent, except the effluent from any lavatories or washbasins provided as ancillary to the trade use of the launderette. The appeal should be allowed.

Lord Justice Brandon agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Mr David A. Pickard; Swatton, Hughes & Co, Tring.

Special procedure criticized

Sandholm v Sandholm

After the Court of Appeal had dismissed a husband's appeal against the refusal of a county court judge to rescind a decree of divorce granted under the special procedure and to allow him to file an answer out of time, Lord Justice Goff said that he much regretted the special procedure and suggested that the rule-making committee should consider revision of the rules.

HIS LORDSHIP, who was sitting with Lord Justice Orr and Lord Justice Ormrod, said that if the husband had put in an answer the case would have been heard in the ordinary way and the onus of proof would have been on the wife to prove her case. In the ordinary way, faced with an application to extend time on the ground of a misunderstanding between solicitor and client, the court would consider whether the explanation made was adequate in the circumstances and might well, in the present case, have given leave.

As the husband had not applied until after the registrar's certificate it was too late unless he could show a positive case on the merits; the onus of proof was completely reversed. The judge had plainly been right in the present case, and his Lordship agreed with reluctance that the appeal failed. Solicitors should see that in any case in which it was desired to oppose the granting of a petition a holding answer was put in.

Judge makes cash proviso over man's love affair

Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln called in the High Court yesterday for a cash guarantee to insure against the renewal of a forbidden love affair.

He told Mr Gary Guilmoto, aged 28, from the Channel Islands, that unless his parents put up substantial sums of money to insure that he stays away from his girl, a ward of court, aged 16 he will face prison if he returns to his home in Guernsey for Christmas.

Mr Guilmoto said after the hearing: "They could never raise a substantial sum of money at such short notice."

He had broken an order, made by a judge in the Family Division last month, banning him from getting in touch with the Guernsey waitress he has pledged to marry.

The judge today made a suspended jail order against Mr Guilmoto and said he would go to prison if there were any more breaches of the November injunction. He said Mr Guilmoto admitted he had communication with the girl, whose name is being kept secret. On one occasion he had sent her a tape cassette.

The judge added: He recognizes he was in contempt of court. But he told me he had been in communication with her father, and as a result he had now formed the intention to avoid all other communication with her and to observe the orders of the court scrupulously to prove himself to the girl, her father and her family."

The judge said: "I issue an injunction restraining him from travelling to Guernsey."

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

PERSONAL CHOICE

nreid and Bette Davis in a scene from the film Now (BBC 2, 8.40)

:t's documentary River of Sand (ITV, 8.30) has an le pedigree. It was made by Anglia Television's The Survival unit, whose wildlife films are among the nest. And it was filmed by the same man, Simon Trevor, ographed what must be the best film ever made about ant, Bloody Ivory. Mr Trevor lives in the Tsavo region where both the elephant film and River of Sand were what was virtually his own back garden, then, was the which dried up when rain failed to fall for four years. small waterhole at Roka was left and it was here that r magnificently photographed the birds and animals for Sand, especially the elephants whose trunks could reach the soil to extract what little water was left when even hole turned to sand. He was also on the spot when the eventually come, and it is the resulting floods which he film with a climax that is as sudden as it is dramatic acular.

nted to be silly and nasty about Now Voyager (BBC 2, d I have no wish to be either of these things for I is a hugely enjoyable piece of romantic nonsense, I nind you that this was the Warner Brothers movie in e of the principal characters committed the famous solecism that became something of a social craze. Paul the smooth Continental lover of the Boston beauty and gly duckling (Bette Davis) puts two cigarettes between uavely lights both from the same match and then passes em to Miss Davis. It was meant, no doubt, to be the Warner Brothers were allowed to get to an erotic gesture ar-off, innocent days when waves crashing against rocks the film-maker interpreted the asterisks beloved of love ters.

ct that many greying heads will nod in pleasurable ion as they listen to this afternoon's feature by Frank overs Come Back (Radio 4, 4.10). This is the story of gler and Webster Booth, the closest Britain got to g its own Nelson Eddy and Jeanette Macdonald in the 0s. The couple, paired domestically as well as vocally, back in England after more than 20 years in South . If you are one of those who hold that no play about s can demand your full attention unless it comes thickly with snow, today's Afternoon Theatre presentation 3.15) is for you. Anita Bronson's play Once a Year is nan whose worst fears about an impending family are laid to rest by the timely intervention of a blizzard.

HE SYMBOLS MEAN : † STEREO ; * BLACK AND WHITE ; AT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather...
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Today's edition includes Peter Seabrook's regular gardening item, Dig This.
1.45 Camberwick Green: puppet story.
2.00 Film: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (1960). The umpteenth remake of Twain's book about the runaway boy. With Eddie Hodges as Huckleberry and Tony Randall as the King. Only so-so.
3.45 Tom and Jerry: cartoon Lonesome Mouse.
3.55 Play School: Daphne Lister's story The Doleful Donkey.
4.20 Maxidog: cartoon. Fig the Explorer.
4.25 Jackanory: last instalment of John Antrobus's story Help ! I'm a Prisoner in a Toothpaste Factory, *read by Spike Milligan.*
4.40 Hong Kong Phooey: cartoon. The Little Crook who Wasn't There (r).
4.55 Crackerjack: today's special guest is Gene Cotton.
5.40 News: with Angela Rippon.
5.55 Nationwide: includes outside broadcast from the Holy Land. With Bob Wellings and Sue Lawley.
7.00 Tom and Jerry: Cartoon. Down-hearted duckling.
7.05 Up a Gum Tree: David Bellamy, in Australia, does some research into the Aboriginals. Third film in a series of five.
7.35 My Wife Next Door: tales of a divorced couple (John Alderton, Hannah Gordon). Tonight: the reconciliation hope that comes to nothing.
8.05 Penmarric: Penultimate episode. We have now reached 1932. Philip returns from Canada and the glowing embers of a family feud are ignited.
9.00 News, with Peter Woods.
9.25 Perry Como's Christmas in Austria: The American singer mingles with shoppers in Salzburg, meets the Four Musketeers in Vienna and merges into the Vienna Boys' Choir. Filmed three years ago, but nothing fundamental will have altered since then.
10.15 Points of View: Barry Took replies to viewers' comments about programmes.
10.20 Phil Silvers: Sergeant Bilko.* Another comedy about the immortal sergeant.
10.50 Count Dracula : last part of Gerald Savory's adaption of Bram Stoker's horror story, with Louis Jordan as the vampire and Frank Finlay as the avenging Van Helsing.
11.40 Film: Dark Star (1974). Space fiction yarn about a scoutship, an elusive alien and a nuking bomb. Good fun. With Dan Bannon and Brian Narelle. Film ends at 1.05 am...

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Wales: 1.45 pm Sycas Mistar Sam. 5.55 Wales Today. 7.00 Heddiw. 7.35 On a Giant Tree. 10.15 Music Makers. 11.05 News. 11.08 Count Dracula. 11.50 Film: The President's Analysis. 1.34 am Weather. **Scotland:** 12.40 pm News. 1.00 Crossroads. 1.30 Transmitters Closedown. 5.55 Reporting Scotland. 10.15 Scottish Band Spectacular. 10.45 News and weather. 1.05 am Close. **Northern Ireland:** 3.53 pm News. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 7.35 Sir Christmas. 10.15 My Wife Next Door. 10.45 News and weather. 1.05 am Close. **England:** 5.55 pm Regional Magazine. 10.15-10.15-10.45 East Variations. London, South East, Points of View. Phil Silvers. Midlands, Roaring Jelly's Christmas Trifle. North, The Houses of the Sun. North East, Mike on Friday. North West, Voices from the Past. South, The Forsyte Inheritance. South West, Sidmouth and the World. West, RPM Rock. 1.05 am Close.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: as BBC1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
5.40 pm Laurel and Hardy: The Laurel and Hardy *Murder Case.** The reading of a will, under which Stanley may benefit provides the plot for this under-nourished comedy. The poor ending is worthy of the rest of it.
6.10 The Beatles at Christmas: Magical Mystery Tour: A curtain raiser for all the Beatles' cinema films (this one was made for television), to be shown over the holiday. It was thought to be too self-consciously avant-garde when first viewed in 1967. Now, it may look slightly old-fashioned. The Beatles wrote and directed it.
7.00 Better Badminton: the art of mixed doubles. Last in this series which must have improved many people's game.
7.25 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.35 In the Country: Constable immortalized Flatford Mill in paint. Now it is owned by the National Trust and has become a centre for promoting an interest in natural history and country matters. Angela Rippon, Bernard Price and Richard Mabey visit the centre.
8.05 Newsweek: Suffer Little Children. *Moyra Bremner reports* on some of the 50 million working children who labour in harsh conditions in coal mines, factories and on the land. Some of these children are only four years old. What, the programme asks, can be done to stop this awful business ?
8.40 Film: Now Voyager* (1942). High-quality tear-jerker, from Warner Brothers, in which Bette Davis is the mother-dominated ugly duckling who, after psychiatric treatment, is transformed into a desirable beauty. Also starring Paul Henreid, (whose lighting of Miss Davis's cigarette was to become one of Hollywood's mystical moments), Claude Raines, Gladys Cooper. (See Personal Choice.)
10.35 News and weather.
10.50 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning: A warm welcome back to Ned Sherrin, as this lighthearted *show's MC. He has been glassed.* Taking part in a quiz of the year are William Rushton and John Wells.
11.40 Film: It's Always Fair Weather (1955). Gene Kelly musical, notable mainly for his dance on roller skates to the tune of I like Myself. About a reunion of three wartime servicemen (the other two are Dan Dailey and Michael Kidd). Cyd Charisse and Dolores Gray are the girls in the slight plot about the television industry. Film ends at 1.25 am.

THAMES

9.30 am Pan!: Pop music show, presented by Paul Nicholas. Includes film clips.
9.55 Conquest of the Sea: The Weather Factory. Where Europe's weather is born—the Azores.
10.40 Film: The Blue Bird (1940). Hollywood fantasy after the Maeterlinck story, with Shirley Temple off to the Land of Luxury. First cousin to The Wizard of Oz.
11.55 The Bubblies: cartoon. No Clouds.
12.00 Song Book : Songs and stories for the very young.
12.10 pm Stepping Stones: the theme today is Sounds.
12.30 The Sullivans: Australian family series.
1.00 News: with Peter Sissons. 1.20 **Thames News :** with Robin Houston.
1.30 Simply Sewing: Making a simple party dress in two lengths.
2.00 After Noon Plus: The facts and fables of Christmas. Carols from Sheffield miners, infants, a choral society and youth club. With both Christian and saturnalian elements.
2.45 film: One Foot in Hell (1960). Western, starring Alan Ladd as a deputy sheriff who seeks revenge *for his wife's death in childbirth.* An uncharacteristic role for Ladd.
4.15 The Flockton Flyer: stories of a family who take over a steam railway (r).
4.45 Magpie: Christmas edition, with contributions from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. We learn how the Christmas cracker came about, and see Britain's only herd of reindeer.
5.15 Thames Sport : with Ronald Allison and Brough Scott (on racing).
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.35 Crossroads: another episode in the lives of motel folk.

London Weekend

7.00 The Muppet Show: The human guest is Arlo Guthrie, the American folk singer, best known perhaps for his song Alice's Restaurant.
7.30 3*2*1* : family quiz game. Tonight's guests include those funny people Charlie Drake and Patsy Rowlands. There is £3,000 in prize money to be won.
8.30 Survival Special: River of Sand. Another of Anglia Television's excellent wild life films (see Personal Choice).
9.30 The Comedians: A stream of jokes told by stand-up comedians who might, or might not, make a name for themselves away from club land, their natural habitat.
10.00 News.
10.30 Soap : American comedy series about two families who say and do unorthodox things.
11.00 The London Programme : who killed Park Royal, London's last surviving bus manufacturers ? Was it the workers ? Or was it British Leyland management ?
11.45 George Hamilton IV : The country and western singer, with other singers as his guests.
12.15 am Close: Another reading, by Andrew Cruickshank, from Through the Year with J. B. Phillips.

WAVELENGTHS : Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only : med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service : med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.
9.45 Enquire Within.
10.00 News.
10.05 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 The Bandsman's Daughter (concl).
11.00 News.
11.05 You, the Jury.†
11.50 Bird of the Week.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 My Word !†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Women's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Listen with Mother.
3.15 Play : Once a Year, by Anita Bronson.†
4.10 Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth.
4.45 Story: Pearl.
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Prefaces to Shakespeare.
8.30 Any Questions ?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.†
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Play : The Last Santa.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Weather.

VHF
6.50 am Regional news, weather.
7.50 Regional news, weather.
5.50 pm Regional news, weather.
11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Kein Problem.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records. Ravel, Granados, Ponce, Lalo.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Falla, Albeniz, Debussy.†
9.00 News.
9.05 J. C. Bach.†..
9.45 Songs: Schubert, Chopin.†
10.20 Horn trios: Banks, Brahms.†
11.15 Israel PO/Bernstein: Mendelssohn (Sym 3).†
11.55 In Short.
12.05 pm IPO : Prokofiev (Sym 5).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Clarinet, cello, piano. Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms.†
1.55 The Arts Worldwide.
2.15 Children Play and Sing.†
2.45 Piano: Scott, Cannon, Schmidt.†
3.35 Chamber music : Shostakovich, Schnittke.†
4.25 Comparing Notes.†
5.25 Homeward Bound.†
5.45 News.
5.50 Homeward Bound.†
6.15 At Home.†
7.10 One Pair of Ears: review.
7.25 Play It Again: preview.
7.30 Philharmonia/Lopez-Cobos: Schumann, Brahms (Pno Conc 1—Zimerman).†
8.35 Talk (Graham Greene); Evelyn Waugh.
9.05 Philharmonia: Mussorgsky-Ravel (Pictures).†
9.45 Talk (Lord Devlin): Law and Order in a Free Society.
10.20 Songs: Schubert.†
10.55 Interval reading.
11.00 Songs: Schubert.†
11.55-12.00 News.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. **5.04** Steve Jones.† **7.32** Ray Moore.† **10.40** Jimmy Young.† **12.15 pm** Waggoners' Walk. **12.30** Pete Murray.† **2.15** David Hamilton.† **4.15** Much More Music.† **5.00** News. **5.05** Waggoners' Walk. **5.20** John Dunn† **6.45** Sports Desk. **7.02** Listen to Les.† **7.30** Fiesta de Dorita.† **8.02** Soccer Special. **9.30** Friday Night is Music Night (joins VHF).† **9.55** Sports Desk. **10.02** Sequence Time. **11.02** Brian Matthew. **2.02-5.00 am** You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. **6.00** Dave Lee Travis. **9.00** Simon Bates. **11.31** Paul Burnett. **2.00 pm** Andy Peebles. **4.31** Paul Gambaccini. **6.31** Roundtable. **8.00** Al Matthews. **9.50** Newsbeat. **10.00** The Friday Rock Show.† **12.00-5.00 am** As Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 and 2.—5.00 am With Radio 2. 8.02 pm Geoff Love.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 9.55 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (tel. ext. 4863) at the following times: 6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.05 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.45 Merchant Navy. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 8.15 The Model. 8.30 Book Programme. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Britain Today Review. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy. 10.30 The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Studio. 11.25 Dateline Newsreel. 11.30 Anything Goes. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15pm Music is a Song and Dance Act. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Letter Box. 2.30 Magical Mystery Tour. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 5.00 World News. 5.09 The Week in Wales. 6.00 World News. 6.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 6.30 All Things Considered. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 Sarah and Company. 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Play Choice. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 The Book Quiz. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 John Peel. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Kingsley Amis on Light Verse. 2.00 World News. 2.09 British Press Review. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Hermsprong. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Anything Goes. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Shakespeare's Heroes. 5.45 The World Today.

REGIONAL TV

Border

As London except: Starts 9.25 am Film: Island of the Lost. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Untamed Frontiers. 11.45 Oscar. 2.45 Film: Just for Fun. 5.15 Bailey's Bird. 6.00 Lookaround Friday. 6.30 Mr and Mrs. 10.30 Wintersport. 11.00 Film: Vampire Lovers. 12.35 am News.

Yorkshire

As London except: 9.30 am Space 1999. 10.20 Wheelie and the Chopper Bunch. 10.45 Christmas Two-Step. 11.10 Tiny Tree. 11.35 Flockton Flyer. 1.20 pm Calendar News. 2.45 Film: Christmas Tree. 5.15 University Challenge. 6.00 Calendar. 8.35 Sport. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Film: Penny Gold.

Ulster

As London except: Starts 10.30 am Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Beachcombers. 11.45 Oscar. 1.20 pm Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: Pearl of the South Pacific. 4.13 News. 5.15 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 Sportscast. 11.00 Friday Night. 11.05 Film: High Risk. 12.25 am Bedtime.

Anglia

As London except: Starts 9.40 am Animated Classic. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Beachcombers. 11.45 Oscar. 1.25 am News. 2.45 Film: Footsteps. 5.15 Bailey's Bird. 6.00 about Anglia. 10.30 Probe. Christmas Quiz. 11.00 Film: Love is a Many-Splendoured Thing. 12.50 am Carol for Christmas.

Channel

As London except: Starts 12.30 pm Sullivans. 1.20 News. 2.45 Film: Rangers. 5.15 Dynomutt the Dog Wonder. 6.00 Report at Six. 6.35 Music for Christmas. 8.30 Incredible Hulk. 9.30 In Search Of. 10.28 News. 10.32 Death and the Maiden. 10.55 Film: Aloha Means Goodbye. 12.35 am News, weather.

Westward

As London except: 9.30 am Sesame Street. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Rocket Robin Hood. 11.45 Oscar. 12.27 pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20 News. 2.45 Film: Rangers. 5.15 Dynomutt the Dog Wonder. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.30 Weekend Show. 6.50 Just the Job. 8.30 Is This Tomorrow ? 10.32 News. 10.36 Newsmonth for December. 10.55 TV Film: Aloha Means Goodbye. 12.35 am Faith for Life.

Southern

As London except: 9.30 am Call It Macaroni. 10.00 Solo One. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Untamed World. 11.45 Oscar. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Houseparty. 3.15 General Hospital. 5.15 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Day by Day. Scene South-East. 6.30 Cabbages and Kings. 10.30 News. 10.35 Southern Report. 11.20 Soap. 11.50 Late Late Show. 1.35 am Weather followed by Parsons of the Past.

Tyne Tees

As London except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word followed by North-East News. 9.30 The Coral World. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Beatles. 11.20 Taffy. 11.45 Oscar. 1.20 pm News. Lookaround. 2.45 Film: Christmas Mantlan. 5.15 Laverne and Shirley. 6.00 Northern Life. 6.25 Sportstime. 10.30 News. 10.35 Friday Live. 12.05 am Film: Five Card Stud. 2.05 Epilogue.

Scottish

As London except: 9.30 am Coral Labyrinth. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Friends of Man. 11.45 Oscar. 1.25 pm News. 2.45 Film: Great Niagara. 5.15 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Talking Scots. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Film: Eye of the Devil.

ATV

As London except: 9.30 am Davey Crockett. 10.20 Wilkie in Winter. 10.45 Cabbages and Kings. 11.10 Lucan. 12.30 pm Gardening Today. 1.20 ATV Newsdesk. 2.45 Film: Nurse On Wheels. 5.15 Happy Days. 6.00 ATV Today. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Film: Date With the Devil. 12.35 am Human Face of China.

Grampian

As London except: Starts 9.25 am First Thing. 9.30 Kosciusko. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Stars on Ice. 11.45 Oscar. 1.20 pm News. 2.45 Film: Family Nobody Wanted. 4.05 Cartoon. 5.15 Mork and Mindy. 6.00 Grampian Today. 6.35 Sportscall. 10.30 Entertainers. 11.00 Film: Trog. 12.35 am Reflections. 12.40 News.

Granada

As London except: 9.30 am Sesame Street. 10.25 Beatles. 10.45 Christmas Two-Step. 11.10 Tiny Tree. 11.35 Handful of Songs. 11.45 Magic Ball. 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 2.00 Film: In This House of Brede. 3.45 Cabbages and Kings. 5.15 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Granada Report. 8.30 Kick Off. 10.30 Double Vision. 11.05 Columbo.

HTV

A: London except: Starts 9.35 am Kum Kum. 10.00 Christmas Two-Step. 10.30 Southern Report. 10.55 Alright Now. 11.20 Wild, Wild World of Animals. 11.45 Oscar. 2.45 pm Film: Things in Their Season. 5.15 Makin It. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Barney Miller. 10.35 Report Extra. 11.05 Film: Return of Count Yorga.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As general service except: 1.20 pm Penawdau Newyddion Y Dydd. 1.25 Report Wales for Christmas. 4.15 Cathod Dyna I Chi. Cathod. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 10.00 News at Ten followed by Report Wales. 10.35 England Their England.
HTV WEST: as general service.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING STARTS HERE

Box No replies should be addressed to:
The Times, PO Box 7
New Printing House Square
Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ

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061-834 1234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel: **Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, extn. 7180.**

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD.

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS 24 HOURS.

Alterations to copy is 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

INTO THINE HAND I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.—Psalm 31. 5.

BIRTHS

CHAMBERLAIN. — On December 18th, at 27 Welbeck Street, W.1, to Benedicta (née Hackman), wife of Francis—a son.

CLAYTON.—On 19th December, at St. Teresa's Hospital, Wimbledon, to Doris (née Beckett) and Michael—a daughter (Davinia), a sister for Julian.

ELSMORE - DODSWORTH. — On 18th December in Norwich to Felicity and Simon—a son.

GRUNDY.—On 17th Dec. in Kuala Lumpur, to Libby (née Sykes) and Steven—a daughter (Amy Elizabeth Anne), a sister for Sarah and Sam.

HAMILTON.—To John and Audrey—a son on 7th December in Chichester. Deo gratias.

HARRIS.—On 17th December 1979, at St. Luke's, Guildford, to Gillian (née Skinner) and Christopher—a son (David Charles Richard).

HEMMING.—On 19th December to Sukie (née Babington-Smith) and John—a son (Henry Sebastian).

KIRKALDY. — On December 18th at Devizes Hospital, to Barbara (née Cotton) and John—a son (James Sebastian Givens), a brother for Sam.

LACEY.—On 18th December, at St. Thomas' Hospital, SE1, to Sue (née Liddiard) and Hubert, a son, Benjamin William Hubert, a brother for Emma.

MALIM.—On Wednesday, 19th December, at Heath Road Hospital, Ipswich, to Clare and Hugh—twin daughters.

PROTHEROE.—On 18th December to Ann (née Manly) and Guy—a son, a brother for Lucy.

BIRTHS

READ.—On November 28th to Marian (née Gilbert) and Martin—a daughter (Eleanor Dorothy Miranda).

SUMMERS.—On December 17th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Nona and Martin—a daughter.

TABOR.—On December 19th, at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, to Jane (née Hargroves) and Mark—a daughter (Camilla).

TRYON.—On December 18th at the Lindo Wing, St. Mary's, Paddington, to Dale and Anthony—twins—a son and a daughter.

WALTON.—On December 18th, to Henrietta (née Boultbee) and Malcolm—a daughter (Anna Henrietta), a sister for Richard and Lucy.

WHITEHEAD.—On December 17th, at Farnborough Hospital, Kent, to Barbara (née Haley) and John—a daughter (Naomi Elizabeth).

MARRIAGES

STEVENS : STYRING.—On Thursday, 20th December, 1979, at Hove, Jasper Jon, son of Mrs and the late Mr Stevens, to Alicia Elizabeth Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Wilson Styring.

RUBY WEDDING

ELDER : STAGG.—On 21st December, 1939, at Swanage, Dorset, Hugh Elder to Mary Stagg. Present address: Millbrook, Huish Episcopi, Langport, Somerset.

DEATHS

ADAMS.—On 18th December, 1979, Norman Reginald, most loved and cherished husband of Olive, father of Janet, Victoria, Caroline, Alexandra and June. Cremation service at West London Crematorium on Friday, 28th December at 12 noon. No flowers please. All donations to British Heart Foundation, 57 Gloucester Place, London W1.

ALEXANDER.—On December 19th, in her 89th year, Violet Lucy (née Hendrick-Aylmer), of Kilmorna, Lismore, County Waterford. Beloved wife of the late Captain Philip S. Alexander and dearly loved mother of Margaret and the late Lieutenant C. Godfrey Alexander and dear grandmother of Lucinda, Iona, Andrew and Isobel. Funeral 12.30 p.m. on Saturday, December 22nd at St. Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore. No letters please. Flowers to Kilmorna.

BANFIELD.—On December 18th, peacefully in hospital, Francis Harold Banfield, O.B.E., aged 77 years. Beloved husband of Effie, dear father of Peter, David and Vivien and devoted "grample" to his six grandchildren. Funeral service at Feltham Methodist Church on Monday, December 24th, at 1.30 p.m., followed by cremation at Chichester. Family flowers only but donations if desired to National Children's Home.

DALTON.—Suddenly, on December 19th, 1979, Cecil Stanley, aged 80 years, of Brailsford Hall, Brailsford, near Derby. Dearly loved husband of the late Ida Dalton. Funeral service and interment at Brailsford Church on Saturday, December 22nd at 2 p.m. Family flowers only, please. Donations for Brailsford Church. Inquiries to Brailsford 319 or 340.

DELANEY.—On 19th December, 1979, Anne (Betty), widow of Laurence Delaney, dearest mother of Patricia and grandmother of David, Frances and Katharine. Funeral private.

ELLINGHOUSE. — On December 19th, suddenly but peacefully, Faye Christina, aged 39, beloved wife of John and daughter of Ivy Gordon-Barnes and the late Thomas Gordon-Barnes.

FRYER.—On 16th December at a nursing home in Folkestone, Audrey, the beloved wife of Colonel K. G. H. Fryer. Cremation private. No flowers or letters, please, by her request.

GOSLING, MICHAEL SPENCER.—On 19th December, 1979, at Parks Farm, Little Maplestead, suddenly and peacefully in his sleep. Beloved husband of Rachel and devoted father of Gillian, Jennifer, Christopher and Martin. A much loved father-in-law and grandfather to his nine grandchildren. Private family cremation. Memorial service, 2.30 p.m., Friday, 4th January, 1980, St. Andrew's Church, Halstead, Essex.

GUNN.—In hospital on December 18th, Gordon, F.I.A.S., F.R.S.A., of Arisaig, Scotland, and Blackheath, London. President, United Society of Artists. Beloved husband of Katherine, father of Richard and Nigel. Cremation at Lewisham (London), 12.30 p.m., Friday, December 28th. Donations to Cancer Research. Any inquiries, please, to 01-697 2487.

HODDINOTT.—On 19th December, Kathleen Mary (Kate) at Overmead, Enfield Drive, Evercreech, the home of her son. Formerly of 1, Compton Corner, Shepton Mallet, aged 58 years. Service and cremation at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Monday, 24th December, at 11.40 a.m. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Research and British Heart Foundation (equally divided), to A. R. W. Connock & Son, Funeral Directors, The Croft, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

LAW.—On 19th December at the Royal Free Hospital, James Baron. Only son of Margaret Moser, of Ardentinny, and brother of Phyllida.

PAGE BARTON.—On December 19th, 1979, Rita, wife of Robert Barton, of Kensington Park Gardens, London. Funeral service at St. Mary of the Angels, Moor House Road, Bayswater, 10 a.m., December 28th. Inquiries to John Nodes, 181 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.10.

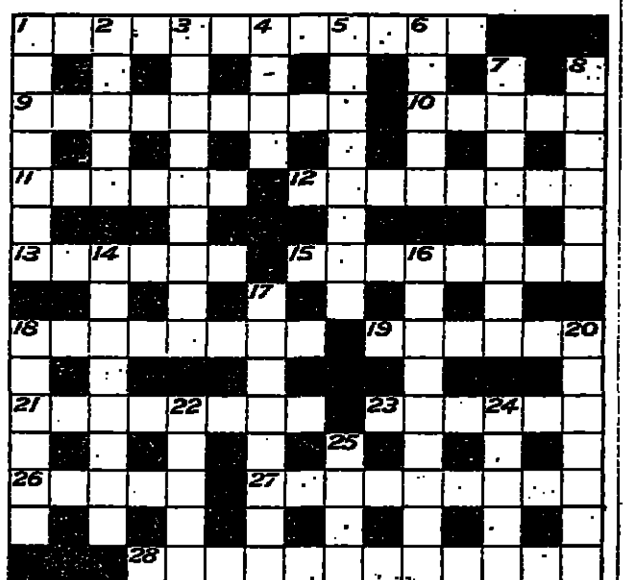
PELLING.—On December 19, Victoria Frances (née Angell), solicitor, of Bognor Regis, formerly of Oxted, in a Littlehampton nursing home, aged 36, after a tragic illness. Much beloved wife of Julian and daughter of "Lola". Funeral at St. Thomas à Becket Church, Pagham, on December 27th at 10.45 a.m., followed by committal at Chichester Crematorium. Cut flowers only, and all inquiries, please, to F. A. Holland & Son, Terminus Road, Littlehampton. Tel. 3939.

PHILLIPSON.—On 19th December, 1979, at Downside Abbey, Dom Wulstan Phillipson, monk of Downside, age 73. Funeral, December 28th, 2.30 p.m.

PRICHARD.—On 19th December, at Great House, Llanblethian, Nora Diana, aged 100, widow of Lt Col H. C. Prichard, of Pwllywrach, Cowbridge, Glamorgan. Funeral at Colwinston Church at 3.30 p.m., Monday, 24th December.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,104

This puzzle, used at the Edinburgh regional final of the Cutty Sark/Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 15 per cent of the finalists.



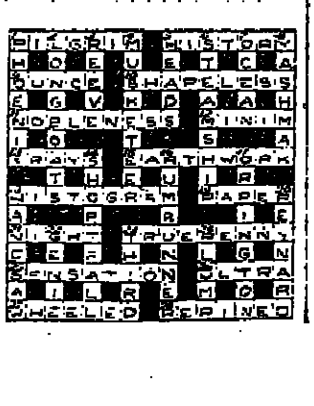
ACROSS

1 Lancastrian England, home for half the angels? (4-8).
9 Like dad to tease us with this delicacy (9).
10 Conclude it's hell—no no! (5).
11 East or West in the Roman's day (6).
12 List of choice silver in Belmont (8).
13 One placed to take a hit to leg from East in last place (6).
15 Tracts for chaps with chaps? (8).
18 Meet T out in poor shape for a spin (8).
19 Sustained by love in E11 (6).
21 Dark heady drink (8).
23 Wry wit, and literature, of Eve (6).
26 Makeshift material (5).
27 Spiritual danger for non-swimmers? (4, 5).
28 An "away" fixture—given a licking (7, 5).

DOWN

1 Attractive picture (7).
2 Was moody as Mariana, but a pronounced difference could transport one (5).
3 Do you speak French? (9).
4 Beggarly jollities (4).
5 By no means the Boffin barouche (4-4).
6 Net the river (5).
7 Outpouring, i.e. off sun possibly (8).
8 Tearful old newsmen? (6).
14 Army engineers turn on a man coming out (8).
16 Smoother ops for pigs (9).
17 Remove bee from twined headdress worn by Dorothy to the opera (8).
18 Possible origin of Angleterre this wood of myth (6).
20 14 rock (7).
22 Colourless that Rio? (5).
24 Joyce's Anna Plurabelle was empty-headed in Twelfth Night (5).
25 His son philosophized, he scored (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,103



DEATHS

RITCHIE. — On December 19th, suddenly, in Aldbury, Australia, Major Rig Ritchie, M.B.E., M.C., late Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Beloved husband of Betty, father of Daphne, Keith and Donald. Funeral Christchurch, South Yarra, Melbourne, Monday, December 24th. A memorial service to be announced later.

SCHENK. — On December 18th, 1979, peacefully, at Ravenscroft Park Nursing Home, Barnet, aged 81 years, Elisabeth Moucha, late of Apsley House, St. John's Wood. Service at Hendon Crematorium, Mill Hill, N.W.7, Friday, December 28 at 2.30 p.m. Flowers to J. A. Clark & Son Ltd., 103 Wood Street, Barnet, before 1.30 p.m., please.

SHARWOOD, MARTHA ANN.—On 19th December, 1979, at St. Christopher's Home, Northampton (born 27th January, 1873). Beloved mother of Jr. Comdr. Peggy Wellstood, A.T.S. (who died on active service, February, 1944). Much loved friend of the Tebbutt family, Boughton, Northampton.

STARMER.—On December 19th, Mary Cecilia Wakefield Starmer OBE, beloved wife of the late Sir Charles Starmer and very dear sister of Dorothy Horton. Funeral service in St. Cuthbert's Church, Darlington, Friday, December 28th, at 2 p.m. Cremation private. Family flowers only, but if desired, a donation in her memory could be sent to The Friends of the Memorial Hospital, Darlington.

WHITTAKER.—On December 16, 1979, peacefully at home, Lilian Jane, darling mother of Kitty Whittaker, a much loved aunt and beloved by all who knew her.

IN MEMORIAM

HOBBS, SIR JOHN BERRY.—Jack Hobbs. Born 16.12.1882, died 21.12.1963. The Greatest—the Perfect Batsman—The Master.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MYRDDIN-BAKER. County Councillor Mrs T. Myrddin-Baker wishes to thank all those who expressed their sympathy on the death of her husband, County Councillor T. Myrddin-Baker, LL.B (Dunelm), Solicitor. All the many letters of condolence, cards, messages of sympathy, and floral tributes will be acknowledged personally by Mrs Myrddin-Baker as soon as possible. 191 Normanby Road, South Bank, Langbaurgh, Cleveland. December 1979.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE'S A CHANCE YOU WILL BE TOLD "YOU'RE DIABETIC"

1,000,000 diabetics in the U.K. You could be the next. Research is constantly going on to find a cure. Please send us a donation—one day you could be thankful. To: Rt. Hon. Lord Redcliffe-Maud, G.C.B., C.B.E.,
BRITISH DIABETICS ASSOCIATION, (Dept. T2)
10 Queen Anne Street,
London W1M 0BD

A BRIGHT SUNSHINY 1980!

Cheer up these bleak after-Christmas doldrums with a sunshine holiday to look forward to in 1980. And we're helping you to plan over Christmas with a special holiday feature "Sun & Snow" appearing on Christmas Eve. There will be lots of wonderful places to choose from so make sure you get your copy and your 1980 sunshine!!

HELP KAMPUCHEA'S STARVING PEOPLE

Red Cross supplies of food and medicines are reaching Kampuchea every day. We must urgently continue to increase quantities and extend distribution. We need more cash to do this.
Please send as much as you can (with s.a.e. if you require receipt) to:

The British Red Cross Society,
Kampuchea Appeal, Dept. K30,
9 Grosvenor Crescent,
London SW1X 7EJ.

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

— where more of your money goes on research. The campaign has one of the lowest expense-to-income ratios of any charity, and is the largest supporter in the United Kingdom of research into all forms of cancer. Please help — with a legacy, donation or gift 'In Memoriam'.
Cancer Research Campaign,
Dept. TX2,
2 Carlton House Terrace,
London, SW1Y 5AR

IN CELEBRATION of these SETTLED TIMES,

Dick, Pam, Stewart, Clive, David, Dominic, Gill, Julia, June, and Mazinka at Negus & Negus wish our clients and friends a convivial Christmas and a good start to the new decade.

DAME ALLAN'S SCHOOLS, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE

Will all past pupils of Dame Allan's Schools please write to the Head Master or Head Mistress at Fowberry Crescent, Newcastle, indicating their year of leaving and present whereabouts to assist with the preparation of a comprehensive list of alumni.

SEA-POWER.—A BBC documentary series about warships and weapons systems. If you have any film of naval action or activities from W.W.1 to the present day, please write to Christine Whittaker, Room H5, BBC, Lime Grove, London, W.12.

JOIN a racehorse syndicate.—See Business Opportunities.

HAVERGAL BRIAN SOCIETY, 33 Coopers Road, Little Heath, Potters Bar, Herts.

HAPPIER Lives for lonely old people can be provided by your Will. Please include a bequest for the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12 Liverpool Street, London EC2.

JOIN A CONTACT GROUP of volunteers, taking out elderly housebound people. Contact needs drivers with cars one Sunday afternoon a month. 01-240 0630.

ALFRED MARNAU, Senta and Corinna will not be sending cards this year, but as always wish all their friends a very happy Christmas and New Year.

CUCKOOPINT Landscape Gardeners bring magic where angels fear to tread—even in Winter! Call Marc or Suzy on 01-602 0011.

THE WINTER MONTHS press hardly on many lonely, frail, old people. THE FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY (formerly Friends of the Poor), 42 Ebury Street, London SW1W 0LZ have been helping them in imaginative ways ever since 1905. PLEASE send us a Christmastide donation.

JOHN & SUE BULMAN. Johnny & Fleur, send their warmest greetings of the season to their many friends in the U.K.

IAN OGILVY (The Saint) hosts Save the Children Fund Toad of Toad Hall Gala, 6.45 on 31st December, Old Vic Theatre. Tel 01-928 7616. Prices from £8 to £1. Star programme sellers. Giant cake.

JOURNALIST visiting E. Africa New Year seeks commissions/courier work.—0954 210722.

MRS. ROBERT S. WILLIAMS Junior of New York wishes to announce that she would be happy to hear from parents of future debutantes who may wish to accompany her party Bal Der Rosen Kavaliers at the Palais Schwarzenberg in the presence of HRH Prince Willy von Thurn und Taxis in Vienna on 26th June, 1980.—Please telephone 01-402 0235 (a.m.) or 01-722 9659 (p.m.).

IS YOUR MONEY LOCKED UP overseas? In shares, property or a bank account? Well-known charity can put it to good use. Write in first instance to Box 0232 F, The Times.

TO ALL MY CUSTOMERS old and new, a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.—Otello Vecchia Ricciolo, London, WC2.

IAIN STEVENSON will not be sending Christmas cards this year. Merry Christmas to both my friends.

DANE.—Happy Xmas.—Stewart family, Ayr, 23391.

STUART GLASS (Hong Kong) wishes his family and friends a marvellous Christmas, a happy and prosperous New Year, and looks forward to seeing everyone in March.

GERALD ELLISON, being about to miss the post, wishes his friends a very happy Christmas.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD

If you want to help vital research to ensure that fewer children are handicapped as we enter the 1980s, please send your donations to:
The Hon. Treasurer (PAC 1)
The National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases,
Vincent House, Springfield Road,
Horsham, W. Sussex.
RH12 2PN

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GASLIGHT of St. James's. London's most experienced businessmen's club, for unforgettable quality evening entertainment. Warm, friendly Edwardian ambience with reasonable prices for drinking or dining. Two bars, restaurant, dancing, cabaret spots, no membership required for out of town or overseas visitors. Open Monday-Friday, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. 4 Duke of York Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Tel: 01-930 1648.

WINE AND DINE

NEW YEAR'S EVE. Astrological Evening. Obelix Restaurant. £15 p.h. Totally inclusive, book now! Tel. 01-229 1877.

ANIMALS AND BIRDS

BABY PARROT starting to talk. £150. 01-863 4164.

SIEGFRIED, GERMAN POINTER puppy needs home. Gun, show, pet. Tel. 045 422 439.

UK HOLIDAYS

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS PLANS

Whatley Manor Hotel, nr. Malmesbury. Due to a cancellation we can offer 2 rooms for the Christmas period in this elegant Cotswold manor house. Enjoy the festive season in the country with first-class personal attention. Enquiries please telephone Malmesbury 2888.

LUXURY LOG HOUSES

In S.W. Scotland, overlooking the Solway. Near beaches, riding, etc. with on-site bar and restaurant. Fully equipped, sleeping 8+. From £70-£195 pw including light and central heating. Illustrated brochure from Barend Properties, Barend, 1, Sandyhills, Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire. Tel.: Southwick (038778) 663.

CHRISTMAS CANC. 2 twin rooms Holne Chase Hotel, exceptional value. Poundsgate, Devon (036 43) 280.

MENDIPS.—Resting, tour. B./B., E.M. opt.—Chewton Mendip 428.

PORTMADOC. Harbour flat, vacs. now. Chester, furnished country bungalow.—(0244) 370577.

QUIET Devon flat to April. £10 p.w. 2-4. Box No. 0821 F The Times.

COTSWOLDS.—Peaceful Manor Cottage available Christmas and New Year period due to genuine cancellation. £50 p.w. plus heating.—Miserden 202.

NEW YEAR at Holne Chase. 4 rooms left, from £18 p.p. inc.—Poundsgate, Devon (036 43) 280.

SHORT LETS

INSTANT FLATS. Chelsea. Luxury serviced. Mr Page 373 3433.

WIMBLEDON PK. — 3-bedroom house. Jan.-Mar., £75 p.w.—874 3537.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

IT'S MAGIC SKIING IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF ANDORRA FROM £89

Fly British Airways to this tiny Duty-Free State with the best snow and skiing in the Pyrenees. Unbeatable value ski-packs and après-ski: Med. Sun: 2 centre hols.: unique Group 4 Super Saver Offer. Still Xmas/N.Y. vacancies. Ring:
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LOST CERTIFICATE(S)
H.M. LAND REGISTRY
It is proposed to issue a new Certificate in place of the one described below that is stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing the missing certificate or objecting to the issue of a new one should at once notify H.M. Land Registry, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PH.
Land Certificate. Freehold Title No. LN[illegible], 24, 25 and 26 St. Dunstan's Hill, London, EC3. Proprietor: Christopher Moran Holdings Ltd.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

RENTALS

CHESTERTONS

MANCHESTER ST.,
A selection of immac[ulately] fully furn. flats in love[ly] bldg. Studio, kit., bat[h] per wk. 2 rms., kit. £135 per wk. Recept. dble. bed., kit., bat[h] per wk. Lettings months. Companies pr[eferred] 01-935 4513.

WOKING, SURREY.—[illegible] bedroomed house. 3 baths. Kitchen/breakf[ast] utility room. 1.3rd ac[re] road, backing on to g[olf] New house, 1 year old with carpets, curtains, school bus to door. Waterloo. £850 p.c.m. 71534.

MARSH & PARSONS of[fer a] selection of well-furnish[ed] and flats. Long/short £2,000 p.w. 5 Church St., W8. 01-9[illegible] 229 9769.

MAYFAIR/MARBLE ARC[H] serviced flats, 2/3 b[ed] bath., recept., America[n] porter. Short lets fr[om] p.w.—Plaza Estates, [illegible]

WOKING, SURREY, lux[ury] house, 3 recept., 2 [illegible] chen/breakfast room room. 1 acre. Priv[ate] Backing on to golf co[urse] house. 1 year old, com[plete] carpets, curtains, etc. bus to door. 25 mins £850 p.c.m. Woking 71[illegible]

BURNHAM GREEN, W.4 furnished flat, dbl. be[d]room, etc. £65 p.w. c.h.w. 994 0410 or 2424.

BAYSWATER SQUAR[E] basement bedsitter, kitc[hen] in family house; suit ma[le] pie. £28 p.w. plus s[ervices] Telephone after 6.30 onl[y] 3206.

MEWS COTTAGE, SW7.—[illegible] recept., kitchen, bathro[om] equipped, vacant now £[illegible] Tel: 02814-3187.

SHORT LETS

ST. JOHNS WOOD. Luxur[y] room flat, £100 p.w. [illegible] Corsham (0249) 71201

FLAT SHARING

MAX FLATSHARE Aeon Bond St.—01-629 5551.

FLATMATES, 313 Brompto[n] Selective sharing.—589 [illegible]

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE for luxury flat at Harrow Hill. Telephone: 422 346[illegible] ings.

£40 P.W. single room, c.h. flat, N.W.1. 459 1[illegible] 8537, eves.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

London Borough of Redbridge amounting to £800,000 matu[ring] 18th March 1980 were is[sued] 18th December 1979 at the discount rate of 15.93[illegible] cent per annum. Appl[ications] totalled £8,600,000. The amount of Bills in iss[ue] £3,800,000.
G. U. PRICE,
Borough Treasurer.

ESSEX COUNTY BILLS
£5m Bills issued on December 1979, due 13th 1980 at an average rate of 1[illegible] 64ths per cent.
Applications totalled £49m. are now £17m Bills on issue.

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL BILLS
£400,000 bls. issued 20. maturing 20.3.80 at 15.61 Applic. tot. £3,000,000 and are £400,000 bls. outstanding.

COMPANY NOTICES

BAYER AKTIENGESELLSCHA[FT]
Convertible Loan Stock
1965 ISSUE
S. G. WARBURG & CO. L[TD.] announce that the interest for period 1st January, 1979 to December, 1979 for the 1965 [issue] will be payable from 2nd Janu[ary] 1980, at the rate of 6.9375 per annum against presentatio[n] Coupon No. 15.
1969 ISSUE
S. G. WARBURG & CO. L[TD.] announce that the interest for period 1st January, 1979 to December, 1979 for the 1969 [issue] will be payable from 2nd Janu[ary] 1980, at the rate of 6.9375 per annum against presentatio[n] Coupon No. 11.
Coupons should be lodged wi[th] S. G. WARBURG & CO. LTD Coupon Department, St. Albans House, Goldsmith Street, London EC2P 2DL. from whom claim forms can obtained.
United Kingdom Income Tax be deducted at the rate of 3[illegible] the £ unless claims are accomp[anied] by an affidavit.
German Capital Yields deducted at 25.00% is recove[rable] in full by United Kingdom resi[dents] and S. G. WARBURG & CO. L[TD.] will provide appropriate form[s] such recovery upon applicatio[n]
30 Gresham S[t.]
London EC2P
21st December, 1979.

TIMES CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WORKS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

£2.75 per line (minimum 2 lines),
£13.75 per single column centimetre—semi-display (minimum 3 cms),
£16.50 per single column centimetre—Full display (minimum 3 cms),
on all categories except:
Motors, Property Under £30,000 and Weekend Shoparound—£10 per s.c.c.

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Classified Ads Dept.,
Room N315,
New Printing House Square,
Gray's Inn Road,
London, WC1X 8EZ.
For any further Classified information please
RING
01-837 3311

Printed and Published by Times Newspapers Limited, at New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ, England. Telephone: 01-837 1234. Telex: 264971. Friday, December 21, 1979. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.